



## 5/15/2020 Beaufort County, NC

### COVID-19 SITREP

The following information is as of 5:30pm.

#### Case Statistics

	Population	Total Confirmed Cases	Current Active Cases	Deaths	Recovered
Worldwide	7.6 Billion	4,516,360 (+107,763)	2,894,006 (+58,253)	306,051 (+5,736)	1,622,354 (+44,510)
USA	330 Million	1,432,045 (+26,084)	1,185,631 (+23,100)	86,851 (+1,657)	246,414 (+2,984)
NC	10.4 Million	17,277 (+582)	8,162 (+582)	661 (+24)	9,115
Beaufort Co.	47,000	30 (+3)	7 (+3)	0	23

\*Text in red or green indicates positive / negative changes since our last update.\*

- NC has total 17,277 confirmed cases, across 99 counties, with 661 deaths. Our state currently has 8,162 active cases and 492 hospitalizations.
- Beaufort County has had a total of 30 cases, with 7 currently active. Our 3 newest cases have been attributed to having direct contact with other known cases. Eight (8) of our positive cases were asymptomatic. (Meaning they experienced no COVID-19 symptoms.) Contact tracing of these known cases have concluded:
  - (10) cases are attributed to direct contact with another known positive case.
  - (2) cases were related to travel to a known outbreak area.
  - (16) cases are attributed to community spread.
  - (1) case is still under investigation.

All active cases are self-isolating.



- Eastern NC counties with total confirmed cases include: Bertie, (76), Beaufort (30), Bladen (68), Brunswick (51), Carteret (36), Camden (2), Chowan (12), Columbus (229), Craven (81), Currituck (11), Dare (21), Duplin (338), Edgecombe (164), Gates (13), Greene (40), Halifax (107), Hertford (51), Hyde (1), Jones (21), Lenoir (141), Martin (34), New Hanover (124), North Hampton (129), Onslow (67), Pamlico (8), Pasquotank (83), Pender (43), Perquimans (21), Pitt (196) Sampson (219), Tyrrell (4), Washington (26), Wayne (801) and Wilson (222). Mecklenburg (2,385), Wake (1,143), and Durham (949) counties have the most cases.

**Please Remember and Practice “The 3 Ws”**

**Wear Face Coverings**

**Wait 6’ Apart**

**Wash Your Hands Often**

**Beaufort County Reopening Public Facing Areas Beginning  
Monday, May 18, 2020 at 8:00 AM**

May 14, 2020 – Beginning Monday, May 18, 2020 at 8:00 AM, Beaufort County will reopen public facing areas for customers. Modifications have been made to public areas to help keep the public and County staff safe during transactions. Modifications include: Glass or plexiglass barriers, social distancing floor markings and customer line designations that help maintain social distancing. Hand sanitizing stations will also be provided. Customers are encouraged to continue to use the drive-up window at the Financial Services Building or the Tax Office drop box to pay bills and to continue to use telephone or electronic means of communication if possible. If you decide to come in buildings, please respect the social distancing measures and follow the State of North Carolina’s 3W plan: Wear a cloth face covering; Wait 6 feet apart; Wash hands often or use hand sanitizer.

Exception: Due to staff shortages, the Animal Shelter will continue to make appointments for visitors so normal safety measures with animal visits can be maintained.

Please stay safe and look out for each other as we continue to deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## Contacts:

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Washington, NC 27889  
252-946-0079

Jim Madson, Public Health Director  
[james.madson@bchd.net](mailto:james.madson@bchd.net)  
1436 Highland Drive  
Washington, NC 27889  
252-946-1902

## Re-Opening Timeline / Guidelines

Below is a summary of our states plan for a phased reopening. Please note that these timelines / guidelines are subject to change based on case trends and / or additional executive orders.

**Phase I (Will begin at 5pm Friday May 8th, 2020 and continue for 2 to 3 weeks. (2 weeks - May 22, 2020) or (3 weeks – May 30, 2020)**

Modified Stay-at-Home order. Opening of Bookstores, Clothing Stores, Sporting Goods Stores, Housewares Stores & other Retailers with social distancing, enhanced hygiene & cleaning protocols, symptom screening of employees, accommodations for vulnerable workers, and provide education to employees and workers to combat misinformation.

### Phase 1 Requirements

Businesses planning to open must adhere to the following requirements outlined in Executive Order 138

#### Occupancy

- Customer Capacity cannot exceed 50% of stated fire capacity OR 12 customers for every 1,000 sq. ft of total square footage.
- Local governments cannot set different occupancy requirements.
- Must display “Emergency Maximum Occupancy” signage.

#### Distancing

- Must display signage directing people to stay 6’ apart.



- Must have six-foot markings at point-of-sale and high traffic areas.

#### Sanitation

- Perform frequent and routine environmental cleaning and disinfection of counters, pin-pads and other high-touch areas with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2.

#### Health Screening

- Conduct daily symptom screening of workers.
- Immediately send symptomatic workers home.

#### Phase 1 Recommendations

Executive Order 138 recommends the following for businesses that plan to open.

- Direct workers to stay at least 6' apart from one another and from customers to the greatest extent possible.
- Provide designated times for seniors and other high-risk populations to access services.
- Develop and use systems that allow for online, email or telephone ordering, and provide for no-contact curbside pick-up, drive-through or home delivery.
- High volume retail businesses such as grocery stores and pharmacies are strongly encouraged to:
  - Use acrylic / plastic shields at point of sale
  - Clearly mark entry / exit points
- Continue to promote telework and limit non-essential travel.
- Promote social distancing by reducing the number of people coming into the office, by providing 6' of distancing between desks, and by staggering shifts.
- Limit face to face meetings to less than 10 mins.
- Promote frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.
- Recommend that workers wear cloth face coverings.
- Encourage sick workers to stay home.

BEAUFORT COUNTY, N.C.

## OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRE MARSHAL · EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT · ANIMAL CONTROL



# SAFETY PRACTICES FOR BUSINESSES

*As your business transitions to opening and getting back to somewhat normal, keep these following things in mind to protect the health of your employees and customers.*

## PRE-SCREEN EMPLOYEES

Consider implementing temperature checks before employees enter the facility

## REGULAR MONITORING

Encourage employees to self-monitor their temperatures and any symptoms that may arise

## USE APPROPRIATE PPE

Provide or encourage employees to wear face masks and gloves while at work

## MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

Employees should maintain 6 feet and continue practicing social distancing as work duties allow

## CLEAN & DISINFECT SURFACES

Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces and shared equipment





**Answers to other frequently asked questions about Phase I can be found using the following link.**

<https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/FAQs-for-Phase-1-EO-FINAL.pdf>

**Additional Business / Employer Guidance can also be found by using the following link.**

<https://co.beaufort.nc.us/departments/human-services/public-health/2019-coronavirus-covid-19/beaufort-county-resources/business-employer-guidance>

**Phase II (Could begin between May 23, 2020 and May 31, 2020, and continue through June 20, 2020 - July 11, 2020)**

Lift the Stay-at-Home order. Restaurants, Bars, Fitness Centers, Personal Care Services must follow safety protocols including the potential need to reduce capacity

Houses of Worship & Entertainment Venues at reduced capacity.

Increase number of people allowed at gatherings

Recommend face coverings in public spaces when 6 ft of distancing isn't possible.

**Phase III (Could begin June 21, 2020 and July 12, 2020.)**

Increased capacity at Restaurants, Bars, Other Businesses, Houses of Worship & Entertainment Venues.

Further increase the number of people allowed at gatherings.

## **Mitigation Efforts**

- Beaufort County's EOC is fully activated to provide support for essential county and municipal functions.
- Public access will be restricted to Beaufort County Government buildings. Guidance for conducting business with our various departments can be found using the following link and will also be posted at each county building.

<https://co.beaufort.nc.us/post/421/limited-access-to-county-facilities>



- The City of Washington closed the following city office buildings to the public until further notice:
  - City Hall
  - Bobby Andrews Recreation Center
  - George H. and Laura E. Brown Library
  - Grace Martin Harwell Senior Center
  - Moore Aquatic and Fitness Center
  - Susiegray McConnell Sports Complex
- Beaufort County Schools will remain closed through the end of the current school year. They will continue to serve meals Mon-Friday at the following locations.  
The locations for these student meals are :
  - Cornerstone Family Worship Center -1918 West 5th Street, Washington Contact: Tiana Payne Church: 252-946-6109
  - Temple of Joy -96 Hill Road Chocowinity NC Contact: Apostle Georgette Redmond: Church: 252-975-6580 Cell: 917-7223
  - Ware Creek Baptist Church - 2302 Maules Point Road, Blunts Creek Contact: Bishop Charles Smith: Cell: 252-622-1924 Bishop Charles Tyson, Pastor
  - Fresh Anointing Church of God - 820 Hwy 33 East, Aurora NC - Cell 252-364-7493
  
  - River Road Estates
  - Northeast Elementary School
  - Eastern Elementary School
  - John Cotton Tayloe Elementary School
  - Chocowinity Primary School
  - SW Snowden Elementary School
  - Belhaven Civic Center parking lot
  - Salvation Army parking lot in Washington
  - Washington Police Substation at 9th street

Any child can have a breakfast and lunch.

This lunch will be served in a “drive-thru” setting so no one has to leave their car or enter the school building. Parents and family members may pick up these meals for their students whether or not the students are with them. We will just need the names of the students receiving the meals. Any student of any school can pick up a meal at any site.



- Families who need help finding meals for their children ages 18 and younger can text “FOODNC” to “877-877”.
- The Governor’s Office has extended the following orders through May 8<sup>th</sup>. Additional details pertaining to this extension and subsequent plans to lift these restrictions will be provided in tomorrow’s update.
  - EO 139: Provides additional regulatory flexibility to help ensure capacity in the state’s health care system and improve its ability to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - EO 138: Effective 5 p.m. May 8, 2020, eases some restrictions on travel, business operations and mass gatherings.
  - EO 135: Extends until May 8, North Carolina’s Stay At Home (Executive Order 121) as well as other orders regarding the closures of restaurants for dine-in service, bars and other close-contact businesses
  - EO 134: Allows furloughed employees to be eligible for unemployment benefits.
  - EO 133: Extends certain provisions in previous executive orders that are related to transportation.
  - EO 131: Addresses three issues: requires retail stores that are still operating to implement new social distancing policies to make shopping safer for customers and employees; makes earlier COVID-19 guidelines mandatory for nursing facilities, and recommends other long-term care facilities to do the same; speeds up the process to get benefits to people out of work.
  - EO 130: Provides more access to health care beds, expands the pool of health care workers and orders essential childcare services for workers responding to the crisis.
  - EO 124: Prohibits utilities - including electric, gas, water and wastewater services from disconnecting people who are unable to pay during this pandemic and prohibits them from collecting fees, penalties or interest for late payment. The order applies for the next 60 days and gives residential customers at least six months to pay outstanding bills.





- EO 121: A statewide “Stay at Home” order has been issued. This order will restrict travel to essential activities only. (ie. Travel for items such as, groceries, food, medications, household supplies, essential workers, etc.) This order will also limit gatherings to less than 10 people.
- EO 120: Extended school closures through May 15<sup>th</sup>. This order also imposes restrictions on the following businesses; Bingo Parlors, Bowling Alleys, Indoor Exercise Facilities, Health Clubs, Indoor / Outdoor Pools, Live Performance Venues, Movie Theaters, Skating Rinks, Spas, Gaming and businesses which allow gaming activities.
- EO 119: Lifting restrictions on local Health Departments, childcare facilities, and commerce transport. This order also restricting various functions of DMV to include:
  - Driver’s License Office will operate by appointment only.
  - Closing of all Drivers License Office that are on insufficient size to maintain social distancing.
  - Extending office hours at locations that are of sufficient size.
  - Postpone all DMV related hearings for 60 days.
- EO 118: Restricting dine-in services at all restaurants / bars. These businesses will continue to be allowed to provide carry-out and delivery services.

## **Testing**

- There have been 553 tests completed in Beaufort County to date, with 481 negatives, 27 positives and 45 pending. (These are cumulative numbers and includes test performed at the Health Department and reporting private medical facilities throughout our county.)  
**\*Three of our positive cases were tested in other counties but are Beaufort Co. residents.\***

## **Free Wi-Fi Locations**

Please see the message below from Wilkes Communications / Riverstreet Networks.

Wilkes Communications/ Riverstreet Networks Installs Free Wi-Fi Hotspots to the Community



Wilkesboro, NC, March 26, 2020 - Wilkes Communications/Riverstreet Networks is committed to the well-being of our customers, our employees, and our community. As we continue to actively monitor developments related to coronavirus (COVID-19) we want to assure you that we are taking all necessary health and safety precautions in accordance with the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and local and state health officials for our customers, employees and the community.

We are dedicated to serving our valued customers and ensuring they maintain reliable access to the online resources and information they want and need. To ease the strain in this challenging time, we have opened several Wi-Fi hotspots in the communities we serve. We currently have over 100 free Wi-Fi hotspots at 70 locations in North Carolina and Virginia. This will enable students and employees who may not have internet access to be able to complete coursework and work remotely. This free service can be accessed from the safety of your vehicle. Please visit [wilkes.net](http://wilkes.net) or [myriverstreet.net](http://myriverstreet.net) for a listing of our hotspot locations.

Wilkes Communications/RiverStreet Networks would like to thank the businesses for allowing us to install this equipment on their premises. This partnership illustrates how much they care about their community and its well-being. Our network and communications services are crucial to the people we serve in not only keeping them informed but allowing the social distancing required to slow down the spread of the virus through the population.

Our communities, our country, and our world are resilient places. Together, we'll see our way through this situation and be stronger because of it. Thank you for helping us all stay healthy. Free Wi-Fi access can be found at the following locations within Beaufort County:

- Pantego Community Fire Department | 25673 US 264 Hwy E, Pantego NC 27860
- Pinetown Volunteer Fire Department | 7262 N Boyd Rd, Pinetown NC 27865
- Pungo Christian Academy | 983 West Main Street, Belhaven NC 27810
- Northeast Elementary School | 21000 US-264 Pinetown, NC 27865
- Bath Elementary School (Behind Cafeteria) | 110 King St, Bath, NC 27808
- St. Clairs Church | 9814 NC 99, Bath, NC 27808
- Allgood Church of God | 1891 Mill Hole Rd, Washington, NC 27889
- Union Grove Church of Christ | 6889 NC-99, Pantego, NC 27860
- Life Gate Free Will Baptist Church | 52 Old Pamlico Beach Rd, Belhaven, NC 27810
- Pungo Fire Department | 40 Pike Rd, Pantego NC 27860
- Everett's Crossroads Church of Christ | 48 South White Post Rd, Pinetown, NC
- Terra Ceia Christian School | 4428 Christian School Rd, Pantego



Please refer to the following link for a complete list of Wi-Fi locations in NC and VA:  
[See A List of FREE Community Wi-Fi LOCATIONS - NC and VA by Clicking Here](#)

## **Resources**

We have created a resource page that can accessed at  
<https://co.beaufort.nc.us/departments/human-services/public-health/2019-coronavirus-covid-19>.

This resource page contains guidance for businesses, long term care facilities, families, and more.

We are here to offer support and answer any questions or concerns. We are encouraging all community partners to share accurate information and promote it within your businesses, communities, and elsewhere. Beaufort County's website and Facebook page are great ways to stay up to date on accurate information.

Thank you,



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Receive our FREE Quarterly Newsletter by emailing [bchealth@bchd.net](mailto:bchealth@bchd.net)

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