



PUTNAM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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www.putnamcourty.ny.gov/health

A PHAB-ACCREDITED HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MaryEllen Odell
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 15, 2020

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[County Executive issues additional Emergency Orders prohibiting public gatherings or events of more than 20 people and prohibiting buffet style food operations](#)

BREWSTER, NY—Putnam County Executive MaryEllen Odell has issued Executive Orders canceling or postponing all social, community, public gatherings or events, including Putnam County sponsored events where it is anticipated that more than 20 people will be in attendance and also ordering all food service establishments, including delis, supermarkets, grocery stores and catering facilities to cease all buffet style service and sales.

It is important to note that violations of any Executive Orders issued by the County Executive during this state of emergency will be taken very seriously and will be dealt with in full accordance with the law.

The closings and restrictions above join a list of other county closings and cancellations ordered by the County Executive to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, or coronavirus.

- All public and private schools in the county will be closed. Extracurricular activities must be canceled, but the school buildings can remain open for staff and administrators.

- The county's four senior centers are closed and home meal delivery will be expanded to all seniors in need. This includes the Friendship Centers in Carmel, Putnam Valley and Philipstown, and the William Koehler Senior Center in Mahopac.
- Visitors will no longer be allowed at the Putnam County Jail.
- All civil service examinations will be canceled and rescheduled at a later date.

In addition to these closings and restrictions, the County continues to recommend proactive and extensive social distancing be practiced. Specifically, in an effort to reduce the spread and exposure to COVID-19 and to protect our vulnerable populations, everyone should attempt to maintain at least a 6 foot distance from other individuals. You should only be leaving your homes when absolutely necessary. All social events should be reconsidered and re-scheduled if at all possible. Please continue to use common sense and to be mindful of your neighbors and your communities so that we can achieve a reduction in exposure.

The State of Emergency declared by Putnam County on Friday, March 13, continues to allow County Executive Odell to issue Emergency Orders to protect the public health through 11:59 on March 27, 2020.

For the latest information, check the [Putnam County](#) website.

The mission of the Putnam County Department of Health, nationally accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), is to improve and protect the health of the Putnam County community, composed of nearly 100,000 residents. Core services include community health assessment, disease surveillance and control, emergency preparedness, environmental health protection, family health promotion and health education. For more information, please visit our County website at www.putnamcountyny.com/coronavirus; or visit our social media sites on Facebook at www.facebook.com/putnamhealthny and Twitter @PutnamHealthNY.

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