Back to Business Re-Opening Practices

The re-opening of Palm Bay businesses is a key step in our community’s road to recovery following the outbreak of COVID-19. Make this step safely by following public health recommendations to protect employees and customers as we work together to get back to business in OUR Palm Bay.

Practice social distancing in the workplace. Consider rearranging workspaces to ensure that employees are separated by a distance of at least 6 feet. Floor markings or signs may be used to remind customers to maintain social distancing guidelines.

Promote healthy hygiene in your business by encouraging employees to wash hands with soap and water regularly for at least 20 seconds. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content may be provided for employees and customers if hand washing facilities are unavailable.

Encourage the proper use of personal protective equipment such as facemasks and gloves as needed. Disposable gloves and masks should be disposed of appropriately after use to limit accidental exposure. A cloth facemask may be used when interacting with others to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Regularly clean and sanitize your place of business. Frequently touched surfaces should be disinfected daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

As mandated by Governor DeSantis, businesses must take a phased approach to re-opening. Operating at 25% occupancy will ensure employees and customers have adequate space to practice proper social distancing. Restaurants are required to separate dining tables by a minimum of at least 6 feet. Outdoor dining certificates are available and will be approved on a case-by-case basis by Land Development staff.

You should stay home if you are sick or if you believe that you may have been exposed to COVID-19. Employers may consider alternative working arrangements such as telework and should maintain leave policies and practices that are consistent with public health guidelines. The CDC does not recommend that businesses require employees to submit a positive COVID-19 test result to approve sick leave due to a high demand for testing and wait times.