

Missouri Governor Mike Parson released the state's "Show Me Strong Recovery Plan" guidelines for when "Stay Home Missouri" expires May 3. As more businesses reopen, and local officials review the state's guidelines just released, the citizen's responsibilities are still most important:

- Stay home if sick
- Social distancing
 - Stay apart 6+ feet whenever possible
 - Avoid socializing in groups that do not readily allow for appropriate social distancing
- Continue good hygiene and housekeeping
 - Wash hands often with soap and water or use hand sanitizer
 - Avoid touching your face
 - Sneeze or cough into a tissue or the inside of elbow
 - Disinfect frequently used items and surfaces
- Minimize travel to the extent possible

"We will return to a new normal, but like the governor said, it will be like turning a dial not flipping a switch," said Cape Girardeau County Public Health Director Jane Wernsman. "Your Health Department and our regional partners will be reviewing the information the state released today to evaluate how it will work locally." Local officials plan to engage local organizations, health providers and other stakeholders as a local plan is developed.

Social distancing has successfully flattened the curve locally, there are still new cases identified on most days. Find daily reports of local COVID-19 cases at keepcapestrong.com.

Additionally, all businesses are encouraged to do the following:

- Implement basic infection prevention measures informed by industry best practices
- Modify physical workspaces to maximize social distancing
- Minimize business travel
- Develop an infectious disease preparedness and response plan
- Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by a medical provider
- Encourage telework whenever possible and feasible with business operations
- Return to work in phases and/or split shifts
- Limit access to common areas where personnel are likely to congregate and interact
- Ensure that sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance
- Require employees to wear face masks

Like the Governor, Wernsman is urging common sense. "Do what you can to protect yourself, your family, and your community. Stay informed through additional local announcements and guidelines."

For more information:

<https://showmestrong.mo.gov>

<https://www.keepcapestrong.com/>

<https://www.reclaimourregion.com/>