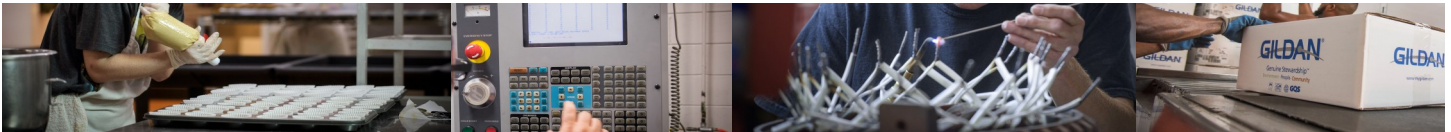


Rockingham County: The Business Impact of COVID-19 and Stay Home Order

Although information regarding COVID-19 is overwhelming and scary, one thing that is for certain is Rockingham County industries and the providers of essential services are still open for business.

“Shelter in Place” can be a confusing term, especially for employers and understanding what is required of you, which is why Governor Cooper has issued a “Stay-at-Home” order. We recognize the responsibility you have to not only continue production of your goods and services, but to your employees as well. The information provided here is meant to act as a guide and to answer some of the concerns you may have during this time. The ultimate goal here is to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community and we are here to help you navigate what should be done on your part to keep your doors open.



WHAT DOES A STAY-AT-HOME ORDER MEAN?

The term “**Shelter-In-Place**” actually has several meanings, and is often a very confusing term as to its exact definition. For this reason, the State of North Carolina has chosen to issue a “**Stay-At-Home**” order effective Monday, March 30th at 5:00 pm. through Wednesday, April 29th, 2020. What this means for employers is that if you have any employees who are not performing an essential function, then they are to stay home.

Is My Business “Essential”?

Most likely, yes. Even though we want to stop the spread of COVID-19, we also want to minimize the impacts to businesses, industries, and the providers of essential services as much as possible. There is a wide array of businesses and industries listed as essential, including manufacturing businesses, financial institutions, critical trades, and those who provide services and supplies for essential businesses, essential government services, or minimal basic operations. For information on how to register to be considered an essential business, please visit our site at <https://www.gorockinghamcountync.com/covid-19-information-and-resources/>

CAN MY EMPLOYEES COME TO WORK?

Yes. Please let your employees know if they are essential to your operations first, and if you still need them to report to work.

WILL MY EMPLOYEES BE ARRESTED IF THEY ARE OUT?

Violating a “**Stay-at-Home**” order is a Class II Misdemeanor, which can incur a fine. Enforcement of this is left to the discretion of local law enforcement. Going to and from work, however, is not a violation of the order. If employees are non-essential and do not have to be at work, then please, for the safety of everyone, encourage them to STAY HOME!

DO MY EMPLOYEES NEED PAPERWORK TO SHOW THEY ARE ESSENTIAL?

During a “**Stay-At-Home**” situation, essential businesses may remain open. During this time, it is **suggested** that particular steps be taken should questions arise. Many employers are providing a letter for employees to keep in their car to prove their destination is for essential activities. An example of this can be found on our website.

IS THIS A CURFEW

No, this is not a curfew it is a full “**Stay-At-Home**” order which is in effect 24 hours a day starting Monday, March 30, 2020.

CAN MY EMPLOYEES LEAVE HOME?

Yes, anyone can leave their home during “**Stay-at-Home**”, however, non-essential businesses will not be open during that time. Social distancing should still be maintained.

This message provided



Rockingham
County NC
YOU'RE IN A GOOD PLACE