

From: [Todd Selig](#)
Subject: Administrative Order 7: Using Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19 in Durham
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**Durham, NH Issues Order Requesting Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of
COVID-19
Administrative Order 7
Effective May 28, 2020**

Due to nationwide public health concerns regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic, the Town of Durham, consistent with NH Department of Health and Human Services recommendations, requests all residents, visitors, business employees, and passersby within the jurisdictional boundaries of the municipality to wear cloth face coverings when outside of the home to help slow the spread of Covid-19. In short, if you need to leave your home, wear a [cloth face covering](#) while out and about anywhere in Durham.

While at work and in public, employees should wear a cloth face covering to help protect against the spread of the virus.

This advice is based on data about how COVID-19 can spread before a person has any symptoms. A mask helps protect others around you if you are infected and don't know it.

A cloth face covering is one more voluntary precaution all individuals in Durham can take to help slow the spread of COVID-19. It's not a substitute for physical distancing and other prevention measures.

You still need to stay at least 6 feet away from people and wash/sanitize hands frequently, even when wearing a face covering.

Examples of when to wear a face covering...

- Trips to the grocery store, pharmacy, doctor or hospital
- Essential workers at a grocery store, pharmacy, or other business setting where they cannot maintain at least 6 feet distance between themselves and others
- At home if you are sick and have other people in the house
- Home care workers caring for vulnerable populations
- Riding the bus, taxi, or ride share
- Walking on a busy and crowded street
- While at work and in public, employees should wear a cloth face covering

Examples of when you don't need to wear a face covering...

- At home, if everyone in the home isn't showing symptoms
- Going for a run or bicycle ride -- if it's not too crowded
- Going for a walk in the woods or in your neighborhood. (But bring one in case you encounter other people and stop to chat.)

Who should never wear a mask...

- Children under the age of 2
- Anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious
- Anyone who is unable to remove the mask without assistance

It's a pandemic; wearing masks in public is the responsible thing to do. It conveys the clear message:
"I care about your health, in addition to my own."

Information regarding wearing masks and other Covid-19 guidance for the workplace may be found at [State of New Hampshire Stay at Home 2.0 Universal Guidelines](#).

Learn more about wearing masks from the NH Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at:
<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/covid-mask-guidance.pdf>

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He/him/his pronouns

To view suggestions from the CDC on how to protect yourself and your family from **COVID-19**, click [HERE](#).
