

INGHAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

EMERGENCY ORDER UNDER MCL 333.2453 (Ingham2020-15) FOR CONTROL OF PANDEMIC

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can result in serious illness or death. It is caused by a new strain of coronavirus not previously identified in humans and easily spread from person to person. There is currently no approved vaccine for this disease.

On March 10, 2020, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services identified the first two presumptive-positive cases of COVID-19 in Michigan. On that same day, Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-4 declaring a state of emergency across the state of Michigan. The following day, the first presumptive-positive case of COVID-19 was reported in Ingham County. A state of emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic was declared in Ingham County on March 16, 2020.

In response to the widespread and severe health, economic, and social harms posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Governor issued Executive Order 2020-33 on April 1, 2020, declaring both a state of emergency and a state of disaster across the state of Michigan. Governor Whitmer has reissued the declaration of emergency on several occasions in light of the continuing threat posed by the pandemic.

On July 29, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued Executive Order 2020-160, which reestablished restrictions crucial to addressing the pandemic, and re-imposed limits on social gatherings and organized events; stating in that order:

“The virus’s resurgence is closely associated with super-spreading events at large social gatherings, often attended by young people. More than 50 cases have been linked to a single house party in Saline; an outbreak at a Lansing bar has resulted in 187 infections; and a sandbar party at Torch Lake over the July 4 weekend led to at least 43 confirmed cases.”

Large social gatherings have demonstrated an increased public health risk with potential for further outbreak and super-spreading events. Nationwide numerous reports have associated large gatherings with increasing infection rates. This has occurred in East Lansing as well. These outbreaks involved transmission with individuals congregating both indoors and outdoors as well as while waiting in lines without appropriate social distancing.

Executive Order 2020-160 limits outdoor social gatherings to 100 persons, with further direction that these events must be designed to ensure that individuals not from the same household maintain social distance of at least 6 feet. Based on the frequency and density of large social gatherings in East Lansing that have required enforcement action by the city, I conclude that further limitation on the size of these types of gatherings is necessary.

In an effort to use the least restrictive means under the circumstances, an area has been delineated based on spatial analysis of noise ordinance violations within the City of East Lansing (attachment 1). This provides an initial distinct geographic area of increased risk within the City of East Lansing in which large social gatherings occur and have been most prone to requiring enforcement.

Acting under Section 2453 of Michigan's Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.2453) I determine, for the reasons outlined above, that to protect the public health it is reasonable and necessary to further limit the size of outdoor social gatherings and organized events as follows:

1. Based on public health and enforcement data, an area of increased public health risk for COVID-19 exists within the City of East Lansing. This increased risk is based on the frequency of large social gatherings requiring enforcement action within the area, which is described as follows:

Within the City of East Lansing:

The area extending south from Burcham Drive to the Michigan State University Campus, the entire area located between Harrison and Hagadorn Roads, and also including the properties adjacent to and located immediately on the west side of Harrison Rd, east side of Hagadorn Rd. and north side of Burcham Dr. Where Burcham Dr. does not extend between Abbot Rd. and Harrison Rd., the north boundary of the area remains in a straight east/west line extending from the end of Burcham Dr. to Harrison Rd. (attachment 2).

2. An outdoor social gathering or outdoor organized event among persons not part of the same household held in the area of increased risk described in Section 1. above, may not exceed 25 people.
3. Notwithstanding the further limitation on gathering and event size, gatherings and events that are subject to Section 2. above, must continue to comply with any and all applicable provisions of the Governor's Orders including, but not limited to, Executive Order 2020-160.
4. This Order does not apply to:
 - a. social gatherings or organized events that take place outside of the area of increased risk described in Section 1. above;
 - b. indoor gatherings, which currently remain limited to 10 people not from the same household by Executive Order 2020-160; or
 - c. social gatherings or organized events at the following places, which must continue to comply with Executive Order 2020-160: schools, childcare organizations, community centers, places of religious worship, farmers markets, and parks.
5. Consistent with MCL 333.2261 and 764.15(1), willful violation of this order constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or a fine of not more than \$200, or both. An individual may be arrested if violation occurs in the presence of a police officer, or the police officer has reasonable cause to believe individual has violated a rule or order.
6. The contents of this Order will be published to the members of the public at large by all reasonable means available.
7. This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until lifted.

Dated: August 18, 2020



Linda S. Vail, Health Officer

CITY OF EAST LANSING
HEAT MAP OF
NOISE COMPLAINTS (2019 THRU JULY 2020)

Attachment 1



