



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Valerie Lough

P: 937-324-7300

E: vlough@springfield.ohio.gov

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SPRINGFIELD, OH (July 23, 2020)

Officials on Mask Mandate: Don't Call 911

Springfield City and Clark County officials are reminding the public to make responsible use of emergency communications in the wake of Gov. Mike Dewine's statewide mask order. The message: don't call 911 to report violations. Dewine on Wednesday issued a statewide mask order to go into effect at 6 p.m. today.

"Our 911 system is in place to handle urgent medical and public safety situations when every minute counts," said Paul Hicks, emergency services manager, City of Springfield. "Reporting the non-wearing of masks or face coverings does not rise to the level of an emergency situation, so we're asking the public to keep that in mind as the Governor's mandate goes into effect."

The statewide order requires everyone 10 years old and older to wear a mask when:

- At an indoor location that is not a residence
- Outdoors, but unable to maintain six-foot social distance from people who are not household members
- Waiting for, riding, driving, or operating public transportation, such as a taxi, a car service, or a private car used for ride-sharing

Exclusions to the order include:

- Those with a medical condition or a disability or those communicating with someone with a disability
- Those who are actively exercising or playing sports
- Those who are officiants at religious services

- Those who are actively involved in public safety; or
- Those who are actively eating or drinking

Gatherings of 10 people or more remain prohibited under Gov. Dewine's order, and individuals should continue to practice social distancing until further notice. For questions about masks and social distancing, contact the Clark County Combined Health District at 937-390-5600.

-30-