

Beginning on May 1, the [Governor's Modified Stay at Home Order](#) requires face coverings or a mask when in a public place where individuals cannot maintain a six-foot social distance. Currently, the mandate is in effect through May 31.

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers regarding mask wearing in Orland Park:

Q: Why do I need to wear a mask?

A: The virus that causes COVID-19 is most commonly transmitted through respiratory droplets when an infected person sneezes or coughs. The Governor's mandate requires Illinois residents to wear a face mask or covering in public beginning May 1. Residents are required to wear a face mask in public when social distancing is not an option.

Q: What kind of face mask should I wear?

A: Cloth face coverings should—

- fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- be secured with ties or ear loops
- include multiple layers of fabric
- allow for breathing without restriction
- be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape

Q: Do I have to wear a mask at home?

A: It is not necessary to wear a mask at home unless someone is sick. In that case, everyone in the household should wear a mask when in contact with the patient. The infected person should additionally stay in a separate room with minimal contact.

Q: Can I make my own mask from fabric?

A: Yes, several templates for creating homemade masks are available online using bandanas, t-shirts, tea towels and many other materials most have on-hand at home. Visit the Village's website at www.orlandpark.org/coronavirusinfo for more information from the CDC.

Q. Can I be arrested/fined for not wearing a mask?

A: The Orland Park Police Department will not arrest or cite anyone for not wearing a mask unless it is an egregious case where it is clear that a person is intentionally and knowingly putting the life and health of others at risk by not wearing a mask.

Q. Can businesses require I wear a mask?

A: Businesses may require anyone entering their store or place of business to wear a mask. If a person fails or refuses to do so, the business owner may refuse them entry. If the person has already entered the store after refusing to wear a mask or takes it off in the store and refuses to wear one after a warning to wear it, then the police may be called if the business owner is willing to sign a complaint for criminal trespass.

Q: What is the alternative to wearing a mask?

A: Those unwilling to wear masks can stay home or avoid public spaces where they can't maintain a six foot distance.

Q: Who SHOULD NOT Wear a Mask?

A:

- Children under age 2
- Anyone who has trouble breathing
- Anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance
- Anyone who has a disability that prevents wearing a mask. People with disabilities who are unable to wear a mask are provided reasonable accommodations per the Americans with Disabilities Act.