

Joint Statement

For immediate release:



Iredell-Statesville School Statement:

In conjunction with the decision made by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association (NCHSAA) and Iredell County, Iredell-Statesville Schools administration has suspended all interscholastic athletics. This includes all middle and high school workouts, skill development, practices, and contests as well as all recreation-based athletic sporting events on school properties as of 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2020. Our district will continue to monitor the federal, state, and local health guidance regarding COVID-19 and keep you updated with any further decisions that will be made.



Iredell County Parks and Recreation Department Statement:

Iredell County Parks and Recreation Department cares deeply about the health of our communities, participants, members, and employees and we are keeping a close eye on the development, science, and all information available on the spread of the Corona Virus (COVID-19). Our intention is not to overreact from a position of undue fear or alarm, and we want to be pro-active and be responsive to help in any way we can. With that in mind, we join many other state and local agencies with **suggested recommendations and mitigation guidance.**

In conjunction with the decision made by North Carolina Youth Soccer Association (NCYSA), North Carolina High School Athletic Association and Iredell-Statesville Schools, Iredell County Parks and Recreation Department has suspended all recreation based athletic sporting events. This includes soccer and baseball practices, games, and matches, as of 11:59 pm on Friday March 13, 2020.

Additionally, we will be postponing our already scheduled Senior Adult trips traveling to the South Carolina Zoo and NC Outer Banks. Our department will continue to monitor federal, state, and local health guidance regarding COVID-19 and keep you updated with any further decisions made.

For additional information, please see the media release from the Iredell County Health Department below.

IREDELL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JANE HINSON, MS, BSN, RN
HEALTH DIRECTOR



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Iredell County Health Department

NEWS RELEASE

March 12th, 2020
2:00PM

Contact: Laurie Wilson, Public Information Officer
704-924-4089 Office
704-832-2396 Fax
laurie.wilson@co.iredell.nc.us

Iredell County COVID-19 Mitigation Guidance

The mission of the Iredell County Health Department is to protect the personal, community, and environmental health of Iredell County residents. Due to the increasing emergence of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in NC, we want to assist our community in taking proactive steps to protect their health by sharing recommendations from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS) meant to slow the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak and reduce the number of people infected.

If followed, these recommended actions will have a significant impact on the lives of Iredell County residents. NC DHHS is making these recommendations based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), current actions by other States, and the most up-to-date epidemiologic information they had to protect the public's health. This is a critical moment in the growing outbreak of COVID-19 in North Carolina when such measures can potentially impact the spread of the disease. These recommendations should be implemented immediately and will extend through March 31st, 2020. The health department will continue to monitor the situation closely and will relay any received guidance on changing or extending these precautionary measures. We will also continue to provide the community with up-to-date information about COVID-19 through our website or media releases.

NC DHHS recommends that anyone at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should avoid large groups of people as much as possible. This includes gatherings such as concert venues, conventions, church services, sporting events, and crowded social events. People at high risk should also avoid cruise travel and non-essential air travel.

Individuals at **HIGH RISK** include:

- Anyone over 65 years of age, or
- Anyone with underlying health conditions including heart disease, lung disease, or diabetes, or
- Anyone with a weakened immune system.

The following recommendations pertain to persons and establishments statewide.

CONGREGATE LIVING FACILITIES

All facilities that serve as residential establishments for high risk persons described above should limit visitors and restrict all visitors who have respiratory illness or potential exposure to COVID-19. These establishments include: nursing homes, independent and assisted living facilities, correctional facilities, and facilities that care for medically vulnerable children.

Central Office
318 Turnersburg Hwy
Statesville, NC 28625
704-878-5300

Mooresville Site
610 E. Center Avenue
Mooresville, NC 28115
704-664-5281

Environmental Health
349 N. Center Street
Statesville, NC 28677
704-878-5305 x3456

MASS GATHERING OR LARGE COMMUNITY EVENTS

It is recommended that event organizers:

- Urge anyone who is sick to not attend.
- Encourage those who are at high risk, described above, to not attend.
- Adopt lenient refund policies for people who are high risk.
- Find ways to give people more physical space to limit close contact as much as possible.
- Encourage attendees to wash hands frequently.
- Clean surfaces with standard cleaners.

ALL TRAVELERS

All travelers returning from countries and US states impacted by COVID-19 are encouraged to follow DHHS guidance on self-monitoring:

For fourteen-days after the return date from a trip, monitor your health.

- Take your temperature twice daily
- STAY HOME if you feel sick with fever, cough, or have difficulty breathing
- Visit your primary care provider. Please call ahead and let them know about your symptoms and recent travel.

The below link includes information about COVID-19 for travelers and travel related industries.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

SCHOOLS

NC DHHS is NOT recommending pre-emptive closure of schools and childcare centers at this time.

To view the NC DHHS Mitigation Guidance, please visit the following link:

<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/news/press-releases/covid-19-mitigation-guidance>

Additional information related to COVID-19 can be found at the following resources:

NC DHHS-DPH: epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/2019nCoV.html

CDC: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

Iredell County Health Department: <https://nc-iredellcounty.civicplus.com/1383/Coronavirus-COVID-19>

North Carolina Public Information Hotline: 1-866-462-3821

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