

March 24, 2020

To the Citizens of the Town of North Elba:

This is an extraordinary time that we are experiencing both here and Worldwide. Throughout our lifetimes, we have never been challenged by an invisible enemy that has left such fear, uncertainty and anxiety amongst all of us. Situations and directives change daily making it difficult to comprehend and prepare for.

Directives and information from the Federal, State, and County pipelines has been flowing to townships from multiple agencies. The amount of emails regarding the Coronavirus - COVID-19 is sometimes repetitive and overwhelming, but certain facts and directives per **Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's 10-point NYS on PAUSE Plan** stand firm and clear as follows:

- (1) Per March 22 directive - all nonessential businesses statewide will be closed;
- (2) Non-essential gatherings of any size for any reason (e.g. parties, celebrations or other social events) are canceled at this time;
- (3) Any concentration of individuals outside their homes must be limited to workers providing essential services and social distancing should be practiced;
- (4) When in public individuals must practice social distancing of at least six feet from others;
- (5) Businesses and other entities that provide other essential services must implement rules that help facilitate social distancing of at least six feet;
- (6) Individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to non-contact and avoid activities where they come in close contact with other people;
- (7) Individuals should limit use of public transportation to when absolutely necessary and should limit potential exposure by spacing out at least six feet from other riders;
- (8) Sick individuals should not leave their home unless to receive medical care and only after a telehealth visit to determine if leaving the home is in the best interest of their health;
- (9) Young people should also practice social distancing and avoid contact with vulnerable populations; and
- (10) Use precautionary sanitizer practices such as using isopropyl alcohol wipes.

“Matilda’s Laws” include the following rules for vulnerable populations:

- Remain at home;
- Can go outside for solitary exercise;
- Do not visit households with multiple people;
- Wear a mask when in the company of others;

- To the greatest extent possible, everyone in the presence of vulnerable people should wear a mask;
- Always stay six feet away from individuals; and
- Do not take any public transportation unless urgent and absolutely necessary

This directive is the Governor's strategy & battle plan to curtail and ultimately defeat this silent enemy. It is extremely important that we all join in and support this endeavor and encourage others to do so as well. It is our best hope of overcoming this pandemic in our Township, County and State.

Basically, from my perspective staying healthy mentally and physically includes the Golden Points of:

- Stay home whenever possible
- Separation 6' rule
 - o Eat well
 - o Exercise
 - o Get plenty of rest
 - o Maintain Sanitary Guidelines
 - Wash hands with warm water and soap for 20 seconds whenever necessary
 - Use Hand Sanitizers as directed
 - o Follow guidelines of the health department and your Doctor.
 - o Limit travel to essential only
- Follow the aforementioned Matilda's Laws if you are in a vulnerable category.

The terms Essential Business/Employee and Non-Essential Business/Employee are frequently heard these days.

The guidance is issued by the NYS Department of Economic Development. Only those businesses or entities that provide essential services are exempt from the imposed restrictions.

For purposes of Executive Order 202.6, Essential Business means:

1. Essential health care operations
2. Essential infrastructure
3. Essential Manufacturing
4. Essential retail
5. Essential services
6. News media

7. Financial institutions
8. Providers of basic necessities to economically disadvantaged populations
9. Construction
10. Defense
11. Essential services necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation and essential operations of residences or other operational businesses
12. Vendors that provide essential services or products, including logistics and technology support, child care and services needed to ensure the continuing operation of government agencies providing for health, safety and welfare.

Essential Employees are those employees that are essential to the operation of their agency or authority, or who must be physically present to perform their job, or who is involved in the emergency response to COVID -19.

Non-Essential employees should be considered as any person who does not need to be physically present to do their job functions, or they are not currently required to meet the core functions of their agency or authority during this emergency response.

Generally, the business, authority or agency determines who is essential and/or non-essential.

We are extremely fortunate to live in this beautiful area, which we all cherish so much. We have a great team in so many respects that have accomplished things that other communities of our size only dream about.

I respectfully request that all of you abide by the Governors Orders outlined above and stay calm and at home. This applies to locals, and any visitors that may be here in any capacity. Once again we need a solid commitment and teamwork to get by this issue.

I am confident that with your support we will make this happen as quickly as possible.

My utmost thanks to all of you who are doing everything possible to be part of this effort.

Stay Safe,

Jay Rand

Supervisor, town of North Elba