

DeKalb



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WHAT CAN I DO?

Even though it may seem simple, practicing good hygiene habits such as washing your hands and covering your cough will help to stop or slow the spread of many diseases.

During a pandemic, it will be critical to understand what you may be asked or required to do. It will be important to follow any Public Health social distancing instructions or any other instructions or orders that may be given. So please stay informed and plan ahead.

For more information about health issues and emergency preparedness, please visit the following Web sites:

- www.cdc.gov
- www.who.int
- www.dekalbhealth.net/covid-19

Speak to a Representative:

(404) 687-3400 or (404) 371-3080

Information About Social Distancing

Social distancing is a term applied to certain actions that are taken by Public Health officials to stop or slow down the spread of a highly contagious disease. The Health Officer has the legal authority to carry out social distancing measures. Since these measures will have considerable impact on our community, any action to start social distancing measures would be coordinated with local agencies such as cities, police departments and schools, as well as with state and federal partners.

This information is being provided to help you understand what you may be asked to do if the Health Officer puts social distancing measures into practice.

What are social distancing measures?

Social distancing measures are taken to restrict when and where people can gather to stop or slow the spread of infectious diseases. Social distancing measures include limiting large groups of people coming together, closing buildings and canceling events.

Why would social distancing measures be used?

Since a pandemic cannot be stopped once it has started, and because health experts do not know how much warning there will be, once Coronavirus (COVID-19) is found in our area, social distancing measures will be used early on to slow the spread of the disease and provide our community with the valuable time needed to be better prepared.

Some examples of social distancing measures that would be conducted during a pandemic include:

- Public and private colleges suspending classes, going to Web-based learning and canceling all large campus meetings and gatherings.
- Public and private libraries modifying their operations and restricting people from gathering by allowing people to come in only to pick up materials that have been reserved or requested on-line or by telephone.
- Business changing company practices, setting up flexible shift plans, having employees telecommute and canceling any large meetings or conferences.