



# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 24, 2020

**Contact:**

**Winston Brooks, Public Information Officer, 455-2648**

## **City of Tullahoma Mayor Revises Shelter at Home** *Mayor's Proclamation Is Advisory, Not Mandatory*

Today, the City of Tullahoma has issued a revised Proclamation that replaces statements and information released yesterday.

“In our haste and out of an abundance of care and concern for the citizens of Tullahoma, my intent was poorly communicated to you and I want to correct that today,” says Tullahoma Mayor Lane Curlee. The Proclamation issued today is issued as an advisory message, rather than an order or mandate, respectfully requesting that the residents of Tullahoma shelter at home, to the fullest extent possible, and that nonessential businesses close.

The City of Tullahoma and our citizens are directed to follow the Governor's Executive Orders, which continue to be issued regularly, and, while we remain under a state of emergency, to follow the directives of our Coffee County Mayor Gary Cordell and Coffee County Emergency Management Agency.

The Mayor's Proclamation is an advisory appeal to the citizens of Tullahoma to take action to stop the spread of the Coronavirus in our community. It is intended to be a complement to the directives and guidance being issued by the CDC and Tennessee Department of Health officials, among others.

Below is Mayor Curlee's full statement to the community:

“Many groups have taken their own initiative and have quit meeting. Schools are closed. Restaurants have closed their dining venues based on the governor's Executive Order #14. Most, if not all, of the 50 churches in Tullahoma are not meeting. Public meetings and assemblies are not gathering or are practicing social distancing. I appreciate these efforts. We realize the odds are greater of someone

spreading the disease and becoming infected if there are groups of people meeting.

There are approximately 1,000 businesses in Tullahoma – large to small. As your Mayor, I respectfully request that nonessential businesses close and that citizens shelter at home, to the fullest extent possible, in an effort to control the spread of the virus.

My primary duty as Mayor is to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the people of Tullahoma. If I'm going to err, I want to err on the side of caution and safety. I sincerely believe this is in the best long-term interest of all the residents of Tullahoma. This short-term pain will benefit us long term.

In summary, my goal is to encourage us all to get ahead of this and stop the spread of the virus in Tullahoma. Business owners and managers, while keeping the contents of the proclamation in mind, it is ultimately your decision as to how to best serve your employees and customers during this challenging time.”

The revised advisory proclamation is to help facilitate the response to COVID-19, and includes the following recommendations:

1. Citizens of Tullahoma are respectfully requested to shelter at home. When individuals must leave their home, they should practice social isolation, staying at least six feet apart, and should assume that others are infectious, regardless of whether they exhibit symptoms.
2. All businesses not performing essential services are requested to close their facilities.
3. Essential services, especially grocery stores and pharmacies, are requested to make best efforts to establish hours of operations during which their services are available only to senior citizens or otherwise vulnerable populations.
4. Essential services are requested to continue to adhere to CDC guidance on social distancing and hand hygiene in the workplace, including encouraging work-from-home and allowing employees when possible to work on-site in shifts to optimize social distancing in the workplace, where possible to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
5. Any local ordinance, policy, or regulation inconsistent with this Proclamation is hereby suspended.
6. If any provision, sentence, clause, phrase, or word, of this Proclamation or any application of it to any individual, business, or circumstance is held to be invalid by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is effective on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 and shall remain in effect for seven days, subject to extension as deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the City of Tullahoma, Tennessee.

The full proclamation can be read at **City of Tullahoma Mayor Revises Shelter at Home Mayor's Proclamation Is Advisory, Not Mandatory**

Today, the City of Tullahoma has issued a revised Proclamation that replaces statements and information released yesterday.

“In our haste and out of an abundance of care and concern for the citizens of Tullahoma, my intent was poorly communicated to you and I want to correct that today,” says Tullahoma Mayor Lane Curlee. The Proclamation issued today is issued as an advisory message, rather than an order or mandate, respectfully requesting that the residents of Tullahoma shelter at home, to the fullest extent possible, and that nonessential businesses close.

The City of Tullahoma and our citizens are directed to follow the Governor's Executive Orders, which continue to be issued regularly, and, while we remain under a state of emergency, to follow the directives of our Coffee County Mayor Gary Cordell and Coffee County Emergency Management Agency.

The Mayor's Proclamation is an advisory appeal to the citizens of Tullahoma to take action to stop the spread of the Coronavirus in our community. It is intended to be a complement to the directives and guidance being issued by the CDC and Tennessee Department of Health officials, among others.

Below is Mayor Curlee's full statement to the community:

“Many groups have taken their own initiative and have quit meeting. Schools are closed. Restaurants have closed their dining venues based on the governor's Executive Order #14. Most, if not all, of the 50 churches in Tullahoma are not meeting. Public meetings and assemblies are not gathering or are practicing social distancing. I appreciate these efforts. We realize the odds are greater of someone spreading the disease and becoming infected if there are groups of people meeting.

There are approximately 1,000 businesses in Tullahoma – large to small. As your Mayor, I respectfully request that nonessential businesses close and that citizens shelter at home, to the fullest extent possible, in an effort to control the spread of the virus.

My primary duty as Mayor is to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the people of Tullahoma. If I'm going to err, I want to err on the side of caution and safety. I sincerely believe this is in the best long-term interest of all the residents of Tullahoma. This short-term pain will benefit us long term.

In summary, my goal is to encourage us all to get ahead of this and stop the spread of the virus in Tullahoma. Business owners and managers, while keeping the contents of the proclamation in mind, it is ultimately your decision as to how to best serve your employees and customers during this challenging time.”

The revised advisory proclamation is to help facilitate the response to COVID-19, and includes the following recommendations:

2. Citizens of Tullahoma are respectfully requested to shelter at home. When individuals must leave their home, they should practice social isolation, staying at least six feet apart, and should assume that others are infectious, regardless of whether they exhibit symptoms.
3. All businesses not performing essential services are requested to close their facilities.
4. Essential services, especially grocery stores and pharmacies, are requested to make best efforts to establish hours of operations during which their services are available only to senior citizens or otherwise vulnerable populations.
5. Essential services are requested to continue to adhere to CDC guidance on social distancing and hand hygiene in the workplace, including encouraging work-from-home and allowing employees when possible to work on-site in shifts to optimize social distancing in the workplace, where possible to reduce the spread of COVID-19.
6. Any local ordinance, policy, or regulation inconsistent with this Proclamation is hereby suspended.
7. If any provision, sentence, clause, phrase, or word, of this Proclamation or any application of it to any individual, business, or circumstance is held to be invalid by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions or applications of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is effective on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 and shall remain in effect for seven days, subject to extension as deemed necessary to protect the health and safety of the citizens of the City of Tullahoma, Tennessee.

The full proclamation can be read at [Tullahomatn.gov](http://Tullahomatn.gov).

For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Tennessee, please visit:

[www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html](http://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html)

[Tullahoma Covid-19 Resources](#)

For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 in Tennessee, please visit:  
[www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html](http://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html)

[Tullahoma Covid-19 Resources](#)