

FOR

May 14, 2021

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monroe County Health Department

Monroe County, Indiana

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COVID-19 HEALTH ORDER/REGULATION WILL BE RESCINDED STARTING MONDAY, MAY 17

BLOOMINGTON – Dr. Thomas Sharp, Monroe County Health Officer, states he will rescind the April 7th Heath Order/Regulation beginning on Monday, May 17th at 8:00 a.m.

"Our plan was to remove the Health Order once we reached the blue advisory level category on the Indiana Department of Health Covid-19 map. We are on track to reach that goal early next week."

The change is also in line with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) recent guidance that people who are fully vaccinated do not need to wear a mask or stay socially distant from others in most instances, whether inside or out. Masks may still be advised for people with certain health conditions, such as being immunocompromised, so those with concerns should check with their doctor.

Penny Caudill, Monroe County Health Department Administrator says "This is a great incentive for people to get vaccinated. The Covid-19 vaccines are safe, effective and easy to get. You can find a local vaccination appointment and register at www.ourshot.in.gov."

"If you are unvaccinated, then masks and distancing remain a vital precaution to ensure your health and the health of those around you. Only those aged twelve and older are eligible, so we still have many who are not able to be vaccinated yet. Let's continue to protect them. You can do that by wearing your mask, distancing, and being vaccinated."

The CDC says that people who are not vaccinated should still wear a face covering and remain socially distant from others, except where required by federal, state or local rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance. Businesses and organizations can continue to require face coverings and physical distancing if they choose.

The Monroe County Board of Health will meet on 5/19/21 to assess data and consider further updates or changes.

"Thank you to all of those who have worked so hard to get us to this day," says Dr. Sharp.

"Please continue to be cautious so we don't have to put restrictions back into place".

Monroe County remains under the Indiana Executive Order https://www.in.gov/gov/files/Executive-Order-21-12-Continuation-of-Modified-County-Based-Restrictions.pdf