



## For Immediate Release

December 7, 2020

In a continued effort to contribute to the fight against COVID-19, the executive Mask Covering Order, which took effect on October 21, 2020 at 12:01 AM, will be extended to April 30, 2021 at 11:59 PM unless otherwise extended, rescinded, superseded, or withdrawn. This extension will immediately follow the original expiration date of December 31, 2020 at 11:59 PM.

“We are continuing to work together with neighboring counties on creating a united front against this virus,” Mayor Rick Gardner said. “It’s been a difficult time for everyone, but especially those who have lost family or friends to complications brought on by COVID-19. We are doing everything we can to follow advice and guidelines provided by local and national health experts to help prevent even more unfortunate deaths in our community and slow the spread, which is why we have extended the executive Mask Covering Order.”

The executive Mask Covering Order will remain the same as current order, exemptions are stated below;

Under the ordinance, everyone over the age of 11 will be required to wear a face covering when in public spaces in the city limits of Ozark. Exemptions are made for those with a medical condition, mental health condition or any disability that prevents wearing a face covering, and those who are hearing impaired and people communicating with individuals who are hearing impaired.

Other exemptions for when inside Ozark city limits include:

- While you are indoors or outdoors and when able to maintain a distance of at least six feet from others
- When engaged in the following activities;
  - Exercising
  - Eating or Drinking only when inside or outside dining area of a restaurant or other food or beverage-serving establishment
  - Giving a speech, presentation, performance, or other similar activity to a group of individuals indoors provided that the presenter or performer maintains six feet of distance while not wearing a mask
  - Obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the covering such as a dentist appointment
- If you are asked to by:
  - A law enforcement officer
  - Medical provider including medical personnel

- When necessary to confirm the identity of a person
- When federal or state law prohibits wearing a face covering or requires the removal of it

## Compliance

It is recommended that businesses place signs on their entrances to notify customers/visitors of the mask requirement. The City of Ozark has created signs that all businesses can print and place on their doors, or businesses can create their own signage, located on our website at [OzarkMissouri.com](http://OzarkMissouri.com).

The Ozark Police Department will work to educate any violators of the ordinance before citations are issued. Individuals and business owners, operators or persons who otherwise control their business that fail to comply with the provisions of this order can be punished with a fine not to exceed \$100.00. Each individual within or working for the entity is considered a separate violation.

Violations can be reported by emailing [coronavirus@ozarkmissouri.com](mailto:coronavirus@ozarkmissouri.com) or calling 417-720-9854. If a customer at a business refuses to wear a face covering and is causing immediate danger to the business's staff, call 911.

For questions about the ordinance, please visit the COVID-19 page on the City of Ozark website [OzarkMissouri.com](http://OzarkMissouri.com).

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