Governor Scott has amended his Stay Home, Stay Safe order from 3/24/20 to be a “Be Smart, Stay Safe” Order, as of 5/15/20.

This order directs all non-essential residents of the state to travel only as needed, while loosening the restrictions on social gatherings and short distance travel. This addendum allows for gatherings of up to 25, and in-state stays at available lodging, campground and marina facilities. The order directs all Vermonters to continue social distancing and follow all CDC and VT Dept of Health guidance.

Click here for Essential Businesses

Services or functions in Vermont deemed critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security include:

- health care operations such as COVID-19 testing and clinical research, hospital personnel and other healthcare providers, public health workers and other healthcare service providers, laboratory services, caregivers, logistics, technology, security and custodial support, blood and plasma donors and mortuary services;
- law enforcement, public safety and first responders, including fire, ambulance services, emergency medical technicians and emergency management personnel;
- critical infrastructure including utilities, telecommunication, airports and transportation infrastructure;
- construction necessary to support the COVID-19 response and maintain critical infrastructure;
- critical manufacturing, including food and animal feed manufacturing, processing and supply, pharmaceuticals and other manufacturing necessary to support the COVID-19 response as well as economic and national security;
- retail serving basic human needs such as grocery stores, pharmacies, other retail that sells food, beverage, animal feed and essential supplies, provided, these retail operations shall be conducted through on-line and telephone orders for delivery and curb-side pickup to the extent possible;
- fuel products and supply;
- hardware stores, provided, these retail operations shall be conducted through online and telephone orders for delivery and curb-side pickup to the extent possible;
- transportation sector and agricultural sector equipment parts, repair and maintenance, provided these retail operations shall be conducted through on-
line and telephone orders for delivery and curb-side pickup to the extent possible;
- trash collection and disposal, recycling and operations and maintenance of drinking water and wastewater/drainage infrastructure;
- agriculture and farms, animal shelters, production and delivery of seed, chemicals and fertilizers, CSAs and veterinarians;
- lodging, to the extent required to support COVID-19 response, critical infrastructure and national security;
- other building and property services for the safety, sanitation and operations of residences or other businesses;
- mail and shipping services;
- news media;
- banks and related financial institutions, provided, however, routine retail banking operations shall be limited to transactions conducted through automated teller machines, drive-through services and online and telephone services;
- providers of necessities and services to economically disadvantaged populations;
- and other vendors of technical, security, logistics, custodial and equipment repair and maintenance services necessary to support the COVID-19 response, critical infrastructure and national security.

This amended order allows for the limited reopening of in-person operations at non-essential retail, and other, businesses pursuant with Governor Scott’s “RestartVT” phased reopening project. Find sector specific guidance that should be followed by those reopening here.