

Town of North Topsail Beach

Joann M. McDermon, Mayor
Mike Benson, Mayor Pro Tem

Aldermen:
Jerry Heid
Tom Leonard
Richard Peters



David J. Gilbride
Interim Town Manager

Laura Oxley, JD, MPA
Town Clerk

Nature's Tranquil Beauty

DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE MAYOR PRO TEM OF NORTH TOPSAIL BEACH

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") confirmed cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cooper issued Executive Order No. 116 titled "Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, and subsequently issued Executive Order No. 117 and Executive Order 118 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These Orders include provisions prohibiting mass gatherings, provisions mandating school closures, mandating bar closures and provisions restricting restaurant operations to carry-out, drive through, and delivery services and restricting onsite consumption in outdoor seating areas only. Based upon guidance from CDC and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made to take appropriate action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors of North Topsail Beach will remain safe and secure.

WHEREAS, the Town of North Topsail Beach considers the Federal and State governments' responses and protective actions necessary to address the COVID-19 public health emergency and to provide for the health, safety and welfare of residents and visitors located in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein and in future modifications is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of North Topsail Beach and under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes and the powers delegated me by the Town Board of Aldermen, I hereby declare as follows:

Section 1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of North Topsail Beach.

Section 2. The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be for the territorial limits of the Town of North Topsail Beach.

Section 3. For the duration of this emergency, the Town of North Topsail Beach encourages and supports guidance issued by the State Government through the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 4. As of 7:00 PM, March 21st, all public beach access parking and town playgrounds were closed. As of May 8th at 7:00 AM, public beach access parking will re-open.

Section 5. I further proclaim and hereby impose the following orders, prohibitions and restrictions:

- 1) Discontinuance of All Short-term Rental Operations: All rental agencies and property owners that rent properties within the Town of North Topsail Beach were instructed to have all then current renters, with a rental period of less than 3 months' duration, and their invitees vacate the premises and leave the Town no later than 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2020. Effective as of March 23rd through May 8, 2020, there will be no new rental occupancies of a duration less than 90 days allowed within the Town. Individuals and entities renting within the Town for purposes directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic or related to the provision of other essential public services are exempted from the prohibition contained in Paragraph 1. The May 8th end date may be extended depending on the circumstances existing at that time. The Town Board of Aldermen will continue to closely monitor the pandemic and the effects of this Declaration so as to enable the Town to best manage this emergency situation.
- 2) The Town urges that all travel be limited to essential travel for property owners and residents, business owners and their respective employees and contractors, and municipal employees and contractors.
- 3) Town Operations: The Town Manager or his designee is hereby authorized to take all lawful actions necessary to manage the Town during this State of Emergency, including, without limitation, procuring goods and services necessary to manage this emergency including but not limited to the adjustment of hours, access, and operation of all government operations, Town-owned facilities, roads, rights-of way, and parks, as deemed reasonably necessary to restrict the spread of COVID- 19 and protect Town residents, the public and municipal employees .
- 4) I and the Town Board of Aldermen strongly encourage everyone to comply with all CDC and State guidelines, including limiting groups to no more than 10 people, limiting activities in public and maintaining at least six feet of distance from other people as well as comply with the Executive Orders issued by the Governor.

Section 6. Any person who violates any provision of this proclamation issued shall be guilty of a Class 2 misdemeanor in accordance with G.S. 14-288.20A

Section 7. This declaration shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded.

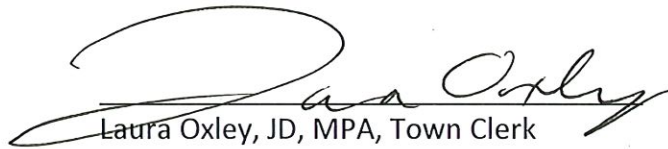
DECLARED this the 6th day of May 2020.

APPROVED:



Joann McDermon, Mayor
Town of North Topsail Beach

ATTEST:



Laura Oxley, JD, MPA, Town Clerk
Town of North Topsail Beach