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Cambria County Added to Governor's Stay-At-Home Order

EBENSBURG, PA (April 1, 2020) – The Cambria County Commissioners, after consultation with the Governor's Office agree to the need for Cambria County to be added to Governor Wolf's Stay-At-Home Order. The stay-at-home order will provide guidance to law enforcement to make residents be aware of the order and informing the public of social distancing practices. The order will be effective tonight at 8:00 p.m.

Cambria County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator, Art Martynuska explains that the stay-at-home order will not significantly change the daily activities of the residents of Cambria County.

"A stay-at-home order will not be a significant change to the residents of Cambria County, because most people are already voluntarily staying home and following Pennsylvania Department of Public Health guidelines," said Martynuska. "All of us need to continue to do our part by washing our hands, practice social distancing, and stay safe by avoiding gatherings of people. This will help to stop the spread to the most vulnerable in our community."

Cambria County Commissioners Tom Chernisky, William "B.J." Smith, and Scott Hunt addressed concerns of the stay-at-home order, providing essential county services, and an emphasis on mitigating the spread of the virus.

"I want to thank all the first responders and health care workers who work each day to keep us safe and the workers who are helping us to put groceries on the table," said Chernisky. "We want to avoid confusion with the stay-at-home order. It means staying at home, but not staying away from local businesses. Many have delivery or curbside pick-up. We can continue to order take out or have delivery provided by our local restaurants and establishments. For me that's important, to continue to support local restaurants during these difficult times. Even following social distancing, get out and get moving because you can still use our trails. The Ghost Town Trail, Path of the Flood Trail, and the Jim Mayer Trail remain open for walking, biking, hiking, and running."

"Cambria County will remain diligent in continuity of performing essential government services and life sustaining functions," said Commissioner Smith. "Staffing will be rotated and downsized during this pandemic. We are confident that we can continue to fulfill our mission as a government entity. Cambria County will continue to make the decisions in the best interest of our employees and the citizens we serve."

"This order was put in place to help mitigate the spread in our communities," said Commissioner Hunt. "The data is showing that social distance works and the actions taken by Cambria County will help protect our families and neighbors. The order will help first responders and healthcare workers to be ready when there is an increase in cases. Just because you don't show symptoms or feel very sick, doesn't mean you can't make someone else more vulnerable sick."

Cambria County issued a countywide Declaration of Emergency on March 17th in response to the growing threat of COVID-19 pandemic. As of March 30th there are two confirmed cases in Cambria County. The stay-at-home order mandates that people may leave their residence only to perform any of the following allowable activities and allowable travel. Here is a link to the Governor's order: [Governor's Stay-at-Home Order and Recommendations](#)

Individuals may leave their residence only to perform any of the following allowable individual activities and allowable essential travel:

- Tasks essential to maintain health and safety, or the health and safety of their family or household members (including pets), such as obtaining medicine or medical supplies, visiting a health care professional, or obtaining supplies they need to work from home
- Getting necessary services or supplies for themselves, for their family or household members, or as part of volunteer efforts, or to deliver those services or supplies to others to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences
- Engaging in outdoor activity, such as walking, hiking or running if they maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet
- To perform work providing essential products and services at a life-sustaining business
- To care for a family member or pet in another household
- Any travel related to the provision of or access to the above-mentioned individual activities or life-sustaining business activities
- Travel to care for elderly, minors, dependents, persons with disabilities, or other vulnerable persons
- Travel to or from educational institutions for purposes of receiving materials for distance learning, for receiving meals, and any other related services
- Travel to return to a place of residence from an outside jurisdiction
- Travel required by law enforcement or court order
- Travel required for non-residents to return to their place of residence outside the commonwealth
- Anyone performing life-sustaining travel does not need paperwork to prove the reason for travel

Questions on this release can be answered by Art Martysnuka 814-472-2050.