

# BERGEN NEW JERSEY County



## County of Bergen

### Executive Order No. 2020-01E

#### Continuing Suspension and Modification of County Ordinances, Rules or Regulations Relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Pursuant to the authority vested in me under the County Executive Form of Optional Charter Law, N.J.S.A. 40:41A-36 and 37, *et seq.*, and Article 3, Section 3.4 of the Administrative Code of the County of Bergen, I issue the following Executive Order:

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern; and

**WHEREAS**, the spread of COVID-19 within New Jersey constitutes an imminent public health hazard that threatens and presently endangers the health, safety and welfare of the residents of all municipalities and counties within the State of New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor of the State of New Jersey has declared a State of Emergency within the New Jersey and the President of the United States has declared a National Emergency as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, in response to the health emergency posed by COVID-19, I issued Executive Order No. 2020-01 on March 10, 2020 declaring a State of Emergency in Bergen County due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order No. 107 requiring New Jersey residents to remain home or at their place of residence subject to limited exceptions, cancelling social gatherings, and limiting all restaurants and other dining establishments to offering only food delivery and/or take-out services; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 107 instituted clear parameters on essential retail businesses that are permitted to operate and required that all businesses or non-profits utilize telework or work-from-home arrangements wherever practicable; and

**WHEREAS**, under Executive Order No. 107, the Governor ordered that all recreational and entertainment businesses are closed to the public, all public, private, and parochial preschool program premises, and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools, are closed to the public, and all institutions of higher education shall continue to cease in-person education; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy also issued Executive Order No. 108, which prohibits counties or municipalities from imposing any COVID-19 related restrictions that in any way will or might conflict with any of the provisions of Executive Order No. 107; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor reserved in Executive Order No. 108 to municipalities or counties the ability to impose additional restrictions in municipal or county parks in response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, I issued Executive Order No. 2020-01D, which closed certain county parks and imposed certain restrictions as to county parks that remained open in an effort to ensure compliance with the guidelines of health professionals and the CDC as to social distancing in order to slow the deadly spread of the COVID-19 throughout Bergen County and protect the health, safety, welfare and lives of the residents of Bergen County, while preserving the ability of individuals to spend time outdoors; and

**WHEREAS**, local authorities have reported complications, including but not limited to traffic congestion, parking issues and non-compliance with social distancing guidelines, related to park visitation, thereby placing an unnecessary burden on local law enforcement, the Bergen County Sheriff and other critical resources during a pandemic; and

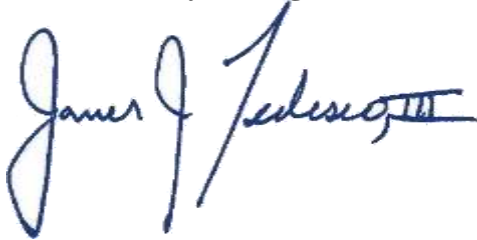
**WHEREAS**, as of this date, March 27, 2020, Bergen County continues to be the epicenter of COVID-19 cases in the State of New Jersey, with a total of 1505 confirmed cases county-wide, and 25 deaths, which necessitates the implementation of any and all measures geared towards compliance with the guidelines of health professionals and the CDC as to social distancing in order to slow the deadly spread of the COVID-19 throughout Bergen County, and protect the health, safety, welfare and lives of the residents of Bergen County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JAMES J. TEDESCO, III, as the County Executive for the County of Bergen, do hereby order and direct that:**

- 1) The above recitals are repeated as if set forth herein.**
- 2) I hereby rescind Executive Order 2020-01D in its entirety to the degree any of its terms conflict with any of the provisions set forth herein.**
- 3) In order to maintain compliance with the guidelines set by health professionals and the CDC as to social distancing and to prevent parks from becoming viral hotspots as**

**the novel coronavirus COVID-19 continues to spread and individuals, I hereby order the closure of all County parks to the public.**

- 4) This Order shall be read in conjunction with and not contrary to the terms of any Executive Order issued by the Governor of the State of New Jersey.**
- 5) This Order shall take effect 8 a.m., Saturday, March 28, 2020, and shall remain in effect until further notice.**
- 6) A copy of this Executive Order shall be immediately transmitted to the Bergen County Board of Chosen Freeholders.**
- 7) Questions with respect to the provisions of the within Executive Order may be presented by email to the County at [EOquestions@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:EOquestions@co.bergen.nj.us), or by calling the County during normal business hours at (201) 336-6010.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James J. Tedesco, III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

**James J. Tedesco, III  
County Executive**

**Dated: MARCH 27, 2020**