

Isolation/Quarantine

1. What is the difference between quarantine and isolation? And how does COVID spread such that isolation and quarantine are needed?

Quarantine: Used to separate and restrict the movement of **people who are well** but who may have been exposed to an infectious disease to see if they become ill. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but are not showing symptoms. A quarantine can help limit the spread of infectious diseases.

Isolation: Used to separate **sick people** (who have or may have an infectious disease) from people who are healthy. Isolation restricts the movement of ill people to help stop the spread of certain diseases. Isolation typically occurs in a hospital setting but can be done at home (self/home-monitoring) or in a special facility.

Droplet and contact: When someone coughs or sneezes, droplets are left in the air and when another person breathes in this can cause the respiratory virus. The virus can live on various surfaces for varying amounts of time; therefore, hand washing is very important in preventing the spread of the virus.

2. What are the proper protocols for quarantine? What is the process for isolation/quarantine for homeless who have COVID or have symptoms and DO NOT want to get off the streets or accept any help? And what happens if someone refuses to stay in quarantine post-screening?

If someone is quarantined, they must be isolated for 14 days and self-monitor for the development of any symptoms. Unsheltered individuals should shelter in place and maintain physical distance from others through a 12X12 space. If they cannot remain isolated, refer them to County's temporary lodging under the guidance of the Public Health Officer's order. The isolation and quarantine orders are blanket orders meaning they are enforceable by Sheriff or Chief of Police. This applies to confirmed and suspected cases of COVID-19. Learn more about the most recent public health order [here](#).

3. If we are sick, why do we have to isolate from our pets?

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed), you should restrict contact with pets and other animals, just like you would around other people. Although there have not been reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19, it is still recommended that people sick with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus. This can help ensure both you and your animals stay healthy. When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick. Avoid contact with your pet including, petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food. If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wash your hands before and after you interact with them. For more information visit the CDC's website by clicking [here](#).

4. Which of the orders are applicable to shelters, day spaces, and other areas where unsheltered individuals may congregate?

The Directive from the Public Health Officer issued on March 23, 2020 applied to all homeless service providers [Public Health Officer Order to Homeless Service Providers 3.23.20](#).