



Building Department Policy for Opening Up Idaho

Effective May 1, 2020

In accordance with the direction given by Governor Little regarding the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and his plans for Opening Up Idaho (released April 23, 2020), the Building Department will adhere to the following revised policy beginning on May 1, 2020.

1. Building permit applications will continue to be accepted in digital format only. All new and previously submitted applications will be processed in the order that they were received. Approvals will be made, and permission to begin construction will be granted, when all requirements have been met.
2. Any applications that have received approval but have not been granted authorization for construction will be reviewed by the department. After review and confirmation of requirements being met, each owner and/or contractor will be notified that restrictions are being lifted and that construction on their project is authorized to begin.
3. All construction sites must comply with social distancing requirements outlined in the Governor's Guidelines for Opening Up Idaho (specifically the protocols on page 4-attached) as well as the following:
 - a. Staggering subcontractors in a way that will allow only one trade at a time and limit the amount of workers to 5 or fewer;
 - b. Anyone that feels sick must not be allowed on any job site. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with your hands. Face masks are strongly encouraged.
 - c. Provide handwashing stations, hand sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes to all workers on site
 - d. Wash or wipe down communal tools after each use & disinfect the entire job site on a regular basis (a minimum of 3 times per day or as each contractor leaves the site).
 - e. Clean shared spaces such as trailers and break/lunchrooms at least once per day.
 - f. Trash, with the exception of construction debris, shall be bagged and removed from the site every day and disposed of appropriately.
 - g. Every job site shall have signage in English and Spanish explaining these and the Governor's Guidelines.
4. Inspections may be performed remotely using Facetime, Skype, Zoom or any other platform that allows the contractor in charge or property owner to be on site and communicate with the inspector remotely. Other items such as specific photographs or documentation may be required by the inspector at their discretion.
5. Onsite inspections will be performed with the following requirements. Other requirements may be warranted at the discretion of department staff based on individual circumstances.
 - a. The contractor must let the inspector know the last time anyone was on the job site. The inspection will be scheduled at least 12 hours from that time.

- b. There will be no one else present on the job site when the inspector is there. (Exceptions may be made if the inspection is inside a residence that is lived in such as a mechanical inspection for a gas line or furnace repair.)
 - c. It is the responsibility of the contractor, homeowner, owner's agent or other person in charge to ensure that ALL social distancing requirements are and have been met at the site.
 - d. If the inspector arrives onsite and has reason to believe that the above conditions have not been met or, for any reason, does not feel safe or comfortable entering the premises, we reserve the right to leave and then contact the owner or contractor.
6. Any violation of this policy will result in a Stop Work Order being issued for the permit as per the International Residential Code, Section R114 as adopted by Teton County Title 6. The Building Department will work with the contractor, homeowner, owner's agent or other person in charge to bring the site back into compliance with the policy and then authorize work to resume.

STAGED OPENING (AFTER IDAHO CRITERIA IS MET)

Until we have targeted, case-based interventions for each infectious person, an effective vaccine, or effective treatment, we must maintain some level of community interventions to slow the spread of COVID-19. This includes heightened protections for the health and safety of workers in critical industries, people living and working in high-risk facilities (e.g. senior care facilities), and all other employees.

All Idahoans have a responsibility to protect themselves and others. Each stage, while allowing for additional businesses and practices to open and loosen, is grounded in the following basic practices for individuals and businesses:

PROTOCOLS

ALL STAGES – INDIVIDUALS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Engage in physical distancing of at least six feet
- Wear face coverings in public places
- Stay home if sick
- Practice good hand hygiene
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Disinfect surfaces and objects regularly

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR EACH STAGE.

ALL STAGES – EMPLOYERS SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Maintain the six-foot physical distancing requirements for employees and patrons
- Provide adequate sanitation and personal hygiene for employees, vendors, and patrons
- Ensure frequent disinfection of the business as well as regular cleaning, especially of high-touch surfaces
- Identify how personal use items such as masks, face coverings, and gloves may be required by employees, vendors, and/or patrons
- Provide services while limiting close interactions with patrons
- Identify strategies for addressing ill employees, which should include requiring COVID-19 positive employees to stay at home while infectious, and may include keeping employees who were directly exposed to the COVID-19 positive employee away from the workplace, and the closure of the business until the location can be properly disinfected
- On a case-by-case basis, include other practices appropriate for specific types of businesses such as screening of employees for illness and exposures upon work entry, requiring non-cash transactions, etc.