

May 27, 2020

Gurnee Business Partners:

As we look forward to moving into Phase 3 of [Restore Illinois](#) on May 29, we are all eager for our businesses to reopen, safely! To assist you with that process, the Village will continue adding new information to its [Covid-19 Business Assistance](#) page and will bring you updates, like this one, when available.

First things first: As you prepare to reopen your business, be aware that building mechanicals, including the water system, may need some attention after a period of reduced use. Guidance has been issued by the [CDC](#) and [IDPH](#) to assist with this important step.

[Phase 3 Guidelines for Reopening](#) have recently been issued by the State of Illinois to provide industry-specific operating guidance. If you still have questions about where your business fits, or which rules apply, the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity has provided a hotline, 800.252.2923 and email, ceo.support@illinois.gov.

Summer always means ‘al fresco’ – and this year, even more so. Retailers: We’re ready to go shopping! If you’d like to display merchandise outdoors, Village code allows it. It needs to be *your* merchandise (as normally sold in-store), displayed within 15 feet of your store, while maintaining clear pedestrian and vehicular access. Restaurants: We’ve enjoyed your creativity with carryout but we’re ready to get back to the table! No permit required for temporary outdoor dining if these guidelines are followed:

Village of Gurnee

Temporary COVID-19 Outdoor Dining Guidelines

1. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity guidelines for outdoor dining must be followed. Following is a link to these guidelines: <https://dceovid19resources.com/assets/Restore-Illinois/businessguidelines3/restaurantbars.pdf>
2. Social distancing shall be observed at all times.
3. Tables must be a minimum of 6 feet between the backs of chairs.
4. Property owner approval must be secured
5. The restaurant may operate under normal business hours.
6. In order to prevent congregating, there will be a 90-minute time limit on dining per party.
7. For current liquor licensees:
 1. Outdoor bars are not allowed
 2. All liquor orders must be fulfilled (prepared) inside the establishment and served only to seated diners incidental to food service; liquor shall remain at tables and cannot be carried outside the designated seating area.
 3. Liquor “to go” (delivery or carryout) *in original containers* will continue to be permitted
8. Establishments must provide trash receptacles in the seating area and will be responsible for clearing all trash from the area each night.
9. Hand sanitizing stations must be provided in the seating area

10. Outdoor dining is allowed on non-public sidewalks under the following conditions:
 - a. 4 feet of clearance is maintained for pedestrian access.
 - b. Must be located in front of the tenant space associated with the restaurant; if it extends beyond, then written permission should be secured from the affected tenant and landlord.
11. Outdoor dining is allowed in parking lot areas under the following conditions:
 - a. The area devoted to outdoor dining shall not exceed 50% of the parking lot area.
 - b. Tables should be located in parking spaces and not drive aisles whenever possible, unless an entire drive aisle and associated parking spaces can be cordoned off in a manner that preserves safe circulation on-site.
 - c. Tables cannot block any fire lanes.
 - d. Cones or other methods should be used to clearly delineate seating areas from parking/drive aisles.
 - e. If a tent is proposed, it must be open sided and be certified flame retardant. No permit is necessary.
12. Outdoor dining, including tents, can be accommodated in conformance with the above noted guidelines (1) without a permit and (2) until the restaurant is able to resume indoor dining as determined by the State of Illinois, so long as operations are conducted consistent with the public health, safety, and welfare.

Prioritizing health and safety (face coverings, social distancing, sanitation) is now a consumer expectation and will be a key component of our recovery. For personal protective and cleaning supplies, you may find [this list](#) helpful. Signage at your business' front entrance such as [this one](#) or those in the [Phase 3 Business Toolkit](#) is a good reminder of the face covering requirement. Free face coverings available for pickup at Village Hall can be a backup for those who forget. Anyone who refuses to comply with the face covering requirement should be asked to leave; if they do not, the Gurnee Police Department can be called, and it will be handled as a trespassing charge. We want our customers and visitors to have confidence that Gurnee is the safest, best place to shop and dine!

The Lake County Health Department offers weekly conference calls specifically targeted to the needs of business. Recordings of prior calls are [here](#) and to submit questions or to receive call-in details, click [here](#).

Phase 3 is aptly titled "Recovery". Together, that's exactly what we'll do. Gurnee's Got It!

Sincerely,



Mayor Kristina M. Kovarik
Village of Gurnee