

**EMERGENCY ORDER (2021-1) FOR CONTROL OF EPIDEMIC
OUTDOOR GATHERING SIZE IN AREAS OF EAST LANSING, MI**

This Order is made pursuant to Section 2453 of the Public Health Code, being MCL 333.2453.

In response to the ongoing public health emergency and the risk posed by COVID-19, matters concerning the public health of the residents of Ingham County have been brought to the attention of the Ingham County Health Officer. The Local Health Officer has determined that controls are necessary to reduce transmission of COVID-19 and to protect the public's health in Ingham County based on the following facts:

- A communicable disease, novel Coronavirus, which causes COVID-19 has been identified and can be transmitted from person to person.
- In order to control and limit the spread of the novel Coronavirus, it is necessary to prevent infected people from coming into contact with uninfected people.
- The spread of COVID-19 can be reduced with cloth face coverings, social distancing, and staying home when sick.
- The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that individuals stay at least 6 feet from others who are not in the same household. Risk of COVID-19 transmission at a gathering or event increases as the size of the event or gathering increases.
- Observations of the area and citations plus recent case counts indicate that residential gathering limits outlined in the [Gatherings and Face Mask Order](#) are insufficient for some areas of Ingham County.

In an effort to use the least restrictive means under the circumstances, an area has been delineated based on spatial analysis of noise ordinance violations within the City of East Lansing ([Attachment 1](#)). This provides an initial distinct geographic area of increased risk within the City of East Lansing in which large social gatherings occur and have been most prone to requiring enforcement.

Acting under Section 2453 of Michigan's Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.2453), I determine, for the reasons outlined above, that to protect the public health it is reasonable and necessary to further limit the size of outdoor social gatherings and organized events as follows:

1. Based on public health and enforcement data, an area of increased public health risk for COVID-19 exists within the City of East Lansing. This increased risk is based on the frequency of large social gatherings requiring enforcement action within the area, which is described as follows:

Within the City of East Lansing:

The area extending south from Burcham Drive to the Michigan State University campus, the entire area located between Harrison and Hagadorn roads, and also including the properties adjacent to and located immediately on the west side of Harrison Road, the east side of Hagadorn Road and the north side of Burcham Drive. Where Burcham Drive does not extend between Abbot and Harrison roads, the north boundary of the area remains in a straight east/west line extending from the end of Burcham Drive to Harrison Road ([Attachment 2](#)).

2. An outdoor social gathering or outdoor organized event among persons not part of the same household held in the area of increased risk described in Section 1. above, may not exceed 15 people.
3. Notwithstanding the further limitation on gathering and event size, gatherings and events that are subject to Section 2. above, must continue to comply with any and all applicable provisions of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' (MDHHS) emergency orders, including, but not limited to, the [Gathering Prohibition and Face Covering Order](#).
4. This Order does not apply to:
 - a. social gatherings or organized events that take place outside of the area of increased risk described in Section 1. above;
 - b. indoor gatherings, which are limited to 15 people from no more than 3 households by MDHHS emergency order effective March 5, 2021;
 - i. "Household" means a group of persons living together in a shared dwelling with common kitchen or bathroom facilities. In dwellings with shared kitchen or bathroom facilities occupied by 20 or more unrelated persons, households are defined by individuals who share a bedroom.
 - c. social gatherings or organized events at the following places, which must continue to comply with MDHHS emergency orders: schools, childcare organizations, community centers, places of religious worship, farmers markets, and parks.
5. Consistent with MCL 333.2261 and 764.15(1), willful violation of this order constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or a fine of not more than \$200, or both. An individual may be arrested if violation occurs in the presence of a police officer, or the police officer has reasonable cause to believe individual has violated a rule or order.
6. The contents of this Order will be published to the members of the public at large by all reasonable means available.
7. This order takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on March 5, 2021 and will remain in effect until it is determined by the Ingham County Health Officer that the threat to the public's health and lives is no longer present.
8. Emergency Order Ingham2020-25 imposed similar restrictions and requirements. This order rescinds and replaces Ingham2020-25.

This order may be revised as well as supplemented with specific procedures and orders in accordance with the Michigan Public Health Code.

Respectfully,



Linda S. Vail, Health Officer
Ingham County Health Department

March 4, 2021

Date