



McHenry County Department of Health, Division of Environmental Health www.mcdh.info

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TO: McHenry County Food Establishments

FROM: Melissa Adamson, Public Health Administrator
Patricia Nomm, Director of Environmental Health 

RE: Phase 3, Restore Illinois

DATE: May 22, 2020 **TIME:** 8:00 a.m.

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Governor Pritzker has indicated that Phase 3 of Restore Illinois will include outdoor dining at food establishments in addition to delivery, drive-thru, curbside pick-up and carry-out. We anticipate entering Phase 3 when the current Executive Order expires on May 29th. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is expected to be releasing Phase 3 requirements, restrictions and recommendations for all types of business operations, including food establishments. While that guidance is not yet available, please monitor their website (Illinois.gov/dceo) over the next few days for its release.

Until that time, please use the Department's previous document, *Preparing for Restore Illinois*, as general guidance. A copy is attached and available on the Department's website: mcdh.info. We will reach out to all of you again, via email, after we have reviewed the DCEO guidance specific to food establishments.

We have received numerous questions from food establishment operators regarding use of decks, temporary tents, outdoor parking areas, restroom accessibility, disposable tableware, condiments, etc. during Phase 3. Our expectation is that the DCEO guidance will address most of these issues.

Please contact your local building authority regarding any restrictions or requirements related to the location of any outdoor seating, the use of your decks, potential for temporary tents or canopies, and public restroom requirements. Please note: it is unlikely that fully enclosed tents will be permissible, as it would essentially create an indoor environment.

Your outdoor seating areas will not impact your health permit in any way provided that it is limited to outdoor table service. Food establishments served by onsite wastewater treatment systems may not exceed the design capacity of that system.

The Department will be closed Monday, May 25th for Memorial Day; however, questions may be left on my direct line, 815-334-4591, and I will return calls daily throughout the weekend.

We sincerely appreciate your continued efforts to operate your food establishment within the current restrictions to protect your staff and your customers during this very difficult time.