



News from Livingston County, NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
PR-COVID19-515-01

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Reopening Businesses Must Develop Safety Plans ***New York State Provides Template for Plan***

Geneseo, NY, May 15, 2020 — Governor Cuomo recently signed [Executive Order 202.31](#), which extends “New York State on PAUSE” but allows the phased reopening in 5 regions – including the Finger Lakes region – to begin today.

For a list of business sectors that are authorized to reopen during Phase 1, as well as guidance for each sector, visit the NY Forward website [here](#).

New York State is requiring each reopening business to develop a written safety plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. A business may fill out a template [here](#) to fulfill the requirement or may develop its own safety plan. The safety plan does not need to be submitted to a state agency for approval but must be retained on the premises of the business and must be made available to the New York State Department of Health (DOH) or local health or safety authorities in the event of an inspection.

Business owners – even those operating now as essential businesses – must read and affirm [here](#) the State’s industry-specific guidance on how to safely operate in accordance with the health and safety requirements designed to protect employees and customers.

Please continue to regularly check the NY Forward website [here](#) for guidance that is applicable to your business or certain parts of your business functions. In addition, Empire State Development (ESD) provides a Frequently Asked Questions section of its website [here](#) that is specific to NY Forward and business reopening.

Livingston County Economic Development also provides local reopening resources on its website [here](#). We encourage you to call the office at 585-243-7124 if you have any questions.

Bill Bacon, Director of Livingston County Economic Development, stated, “Livingston County is fortunate to be part of the Phase 1 reopening as we begin the process toward economic recovery. We need residents and business owners to stay diligent in their efforts to flatten the curve and reduce further spread of this virus. Also, please consider your local businesses first as they all need your support and understanding during this time. This recovery will not happen overnight, but with a strong effort by our loyal residents, we can overcome the impact this life altering scenario has created.”

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