



City of Capitola

PRESS RELEASE

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City of Capitola Issues Beach Orders

Restrictions to Comply with Social Distancing Requirements

On March 16, Santa Cruz County Health Officer issued a Shelter in Place Order. The order directs all county residents to remain in their homes, except for when completing essential activities or working in an essential job function. Though recreation and outdoor activity is allowed under the health order, social distancing practices must always be complied with. Though public outreach and education has been attempted to emphasize the importance of social distancing, the City of Capitola has observed instances of public gatherings and social distancing violations in Capitola Village and on the beach since the shelter in place order was announced.

Due to concerns about the concentration of people in the Capitola Village and the small beach area, and the possibility of larger crowds gathering with warmer weather, the City of Capitola is ordering the following measures.

- The Upper and Lower Pacific Cove parking lots are closed to the public. The Lower lot is open to permit parking, and City employee parking only.
- The maximum allowed time to park in the Capitola Village will be reduced from the regular 3 hours to 1 hour. This change will take effect on April 2.
- Benches have been removed from the sidewalk adjacent to Capitola Beach.
- Temporary large shade structures (pop ups, tents) are banned on Capitola Beach. Umbrellas are allowed.

These changes will be in effect until further notice.