



June 25, 2020

Good Afternoon,

In a news briefing yesterday, Governor Cooper announced the continuation of Phase 2 until July 17 with Executive Order 147. The order also mandates face coverings be used in public, whether indoor or outside, where physical social distancing of six feet is not possible. A copy of the EO and FAQ can be found on the Town's website. Governor Cooper stated that his decisions are based on science and data of several key metrics. Unfortunately, North Carolina's daily number of positive COVID-19 cases continue to rise as does the percentage of tests that are positive, emergency room visits and hospitalizations for COVID-19. The Topsail Beach community and all North Carolinians are at a crossroads and our response will have long term impacts on our health, economy, and lifestyle we want for Topsail Beach. We continue to be fortunate at Topsail Beach with no cases of COVID-19. I am proud of our Topsail Beach businesses as they apply social distancing and other restrictions during this pandemic. Our historic Skating Rink and Assembly Building have now been closed for 3 months due to various COVID Pandemic restrictions. We encourage you to support these institutions and all our local businesses when possible.

We are asking that all citizens, visitors, town employees and property owners follow the Governor's Order and practice the 3W's – Wear, Wait & Wash. If you cannot maintain proper social distancing when in public, please use a face covering. Following the 3W's allows us all to work and live comfortably while demonstrating respect for all who enjoy their time here at Topsail Beach. This is a moment in time when cooperation, respect, patience and "doing the right thing" will make a difference.

As a nation we are experiencing extraordinary days with actions that have the potential to make us a better nation. Our response to the COVID-19 pandemic, removal of social injustice, removal of discrimination in all its forms and workplace changes do require an understanding and strength that has not been seen; however, we have the abilities and strength to show we are the nation our forefathers envisioned.

We are asking for patience, respect, and assistance in keeping the Town of Topsail Beach healthy. Please practice the 3W's – Wear, Wait & Wash.

Regards, Steve Smith, Mayor  
Town of Topsail Beach