



staying strong:

a message from the Frederick
County Chamber of Commerce

Recipe for Reopening

Every great dish begins with a recipe. A talented chef doesn't take chances with the ingredients, cooking time and process when it comes to producing their signature plates. Those same principles and practices can apply to our economic revival, that long-overdue relaunch of our stores, restaurants and shops. Our local economy has suffered terribly under the burden of sheltering brought on by COVID-19. But in order to reopen, we need to really think the process through. To achieve economic recovery while protecting public health is complex and sensitive.

So what are the ingredients we need to begin the process of reengaging our economy?

Recipe for restart:

- Increase testing, especially for those who may have already had the virus
- Encourage continuing sheltering practices for the most vulnerable populations
- Promulgate contact-tracing protocols
- Maintain social distancing guidelines
- Establish/promulgate new antibacterial/viral cleaning standards/products
- Wear facial covering in enclosed public spaces for an additional 45-60 days
- Restaurants reopen, but at 50% capacity for first two months, or until testing demonstrates it's safe to fully open
- Retail stores reopen, but limit customers to ensure social distancing
- Offices reopen with distancing in place
- Limit gatherings, meetings, training, seminars to no more than 10 people for 45-60 days or until testing demonstrates ability to safely return to normal
- Parks, playgrounds and recreational facilities reopen, but maintain safe distance standards.

None of these are revolutionary ideas. Just a pinch of common sense, with a dash of science and a sprinkle of data. Like that great chef, we all want an outcome that ensures our dish is appreciated for its subtlety, the genius of its design and is savored by all. It's entirely possible to restart individual/economic activity while limiting viral spread.

For the sake of Frederick County's economic future, sooner would be better than later.



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