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| ***Commonwealth of Virginia****Office of Governor Ralph S. Northam**﻿* |

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| **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** · March 30, 2020 **Office of the Governor**Alena.Yarmosky@governor.virginia.gov |

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| **Governor Northam Issues Statewide** **﻿Stay at Home Order** |

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| **RICHMOND**—Governor Ralph Northam today issued a statewide Stay at Home order to protect the health and safety of Virginians and mitigate the spread of the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19. The executive order takes effect immediately and will remain in place until June 10, 2020, unless amended or rescinded by a further executive order. The order directs all Virginians to stay home except in extremely limited circumstances. Individuals may leave their residence for allowable travel, including to seek medical attention, work, care for family or household members, obtain goods and services like groceries, prescriptions, and others as outlined in [Executive Order Fifty-Three](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDXQx_Uv1Zk-rrj1kYvHnXX_5zUQ3oAYElF1fOkNjMY1EVk_4gBPQwGAcZpBan619uAsjdxjaiv8NXUdRdBJxPgLvXFKukvT6Au7C6j-EqQS8fgjGzTam2RqZcxjbHU6rOQCqV2W8IxKU0XOoWzBhuVLmTwVtVK2JxdChjStsYfUghFKE1FMYjbZWfrH0MJ3Mfcb6ekMg_5eF4OUeTp8v-dLPvDLA6cC2k9hcpUoBlWH7Cf1AQpxfSlSoQoNE3HfgjnEZIQt60ZX5&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==), and engage in outdoor activity with strict social distancing requirements. The executive order also directs all Virginia institutions of higher education to stop in-person classes and instruction. Private campgrounds must close for short-term stays, and beaches will be closed statewide except for fishing and exercise.  “We are in a public health crisis, and we need everyone to take this seriously and act responsibly,” **said Governor Northam**.“Our message to Virginians is clear: stay home. We know this virus spreads primarily through human-to-human contact, and that’s why it’s so important that people follow this order and practice social distancing. I’m deeply grateful to everyone for their cooperation during this unprecedented and difficult time.”  The full text of Executive Order Fifty-Five can be found [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDcILQ3uDDJxLi3-JkKDlBX4deOIP2VUuoJr5-Ps-fgJzQyQlyf_WK4X4oiIKuVdWVdxUyUTWdVxp-ScuE2U9xPLuXpDTrBNk7EH5CC-NCQ-XDMnGbl5W8-4IVWpSroJWuMb1YmgUZJqukihDVhWLT51dCzEQONloj_GO_G2jnh3bZpKCcLdhbW6gpPpSXY4xVtTWuVvvgXDFEgVu6ReQ83AZA8R8j6b80Vk4iZ9f2EWS63mizmF5LXcNfRbx3nnYc2WFVd-voGMjTzsrJo3cXIY=&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==). Last week, Governor Northam [issued](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDXQx_Uv1Zk-rV49tIF7lBDYLbnPncn6WJObmLcDGhpIRE_T-yh9WfSmeDLkcJ45Q04RnrE-yY6kp3VO0rtfPGd7iX7zBa2SRj7qAqlZntrdqw0Lyzu79y7kF3nQJopqwgncM8pWC5T0vvSi8YRFtT3iGwAoJy2SJzBEpi4YZfk2BtppnJobWcmWW1a46KYoUcQ==&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==) Executive Order Fifty-Three closing certain non-essential businesses, prohibiting public gatherings of more than 10 people, and directing all K-12 schools to remain closed for the rest of the academic year. A Frequently Asked Questions guide about Executive Order Fifty-Three can be found [here](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDXQx_Uv1Zk-rTJ_-OKDXwoHTqezXUP_CxxkjU1-Ukz2yedCjImtgVJcifYaEvB8KNhZZPr5g2uFkm3yPpKUhcUly6_-4waN739JefapR58f1F0Ygcj3pk6EPCaWWY_42oUcB4cRSVEkrHvSMPtlNulQNtdInkX6NiHAVc8JHmBO-kf7Jfjn_R50be3VlvOJ8-66TqrnS9qCuCFteyTdNenHpz6Iin9yx7PLQ76hfm7APQMhHtsOvRIM=&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==). For the latest information about the COVID-19 outbreak, visit [virginia.gov/coronavirus](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDd92RiUJiPeF0xADTNy6fx12sG-mh2iFp9ivtxZwPbYsl188r0ovqrkLZU_P9m-WHiwZL4Yrv91VLLH9ATqoPC3g2i-ZsY_HOMlGSfP6fQ-9dCKymAHLZsm_1WhUMve6AA==&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==) or [CDC.gov/coronavirus](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDcILQ3uDDJxLRzu9BjqmcDWsysFI4AHeMEIuHlvCC1EjjLbsUOAoQYBkkgYYH9bepkvDXXCXT0Ef3Q7Dswu_DXRd_y2lKs2mJVebuICTykZZe3qpizFRZHJUlZLp2bC1IjaTkaHa13ka&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==). [Full Release](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001HPbfNAWiutt4Cc28KmVF2TeScVDvmIaLFHDDelqWQSyqstTMqdYCDcILQ3uDDJxLc6eMus16CmB3P2hWxBdU0ekEVuw1GbbYvzDDfCIlbJ0R2Tm_iwfB5N4LuFvXO3VdhNh-wyLTpYKRykvFzgJ-aGR8uMNGSZLBRaXkb9S3_ovmRHPrffnsbEnjolNBTPY9gOymtOHXMgwxFgssIK-uty2thj40VfqL2WKNCbIgQj_ixjiyCXNlqg==&c=WZ4-D6UkUXXqwxXR3V3e6T_razqggKAOLLb3A6_e4cvdfND4dp8k4A==&ch=J55BAFJTGrzeEo8d22dYzZVhShu9Pnl0Ais6LuFirUyNGFNiNz00zA==)### |

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| Office of the Governor, Commonwealth of Virginia | P.O. Box 1475, Richmond, VA 23218  |
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