



INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

General Manager

DATE: May 5, 2020

TO: GRU Employees

FROM: Ed Bielarski, General Manager

SUBJECT: Compliance with Alachua County Emergency Order 2020-21

Starting today, Alachua County will impose stricter guidelines on wearing face coverings in public. I wanted to address how this may impact GRU, especially as we formulate plans for all employees to return to normal operations.

I have included the exact wording from Alachua County Emergency Order 2020-21 below, but in short: Any GRU employee who can't maintain a six-foot social distance in the workplace or in public must wear a face covering, so:

- Any GRU employee coming within six feet of a GRU customer or any other member of the public must wear a face covering.
- Any GRU employee coming within six feet of another GRU employee in the workplace must wear a face covering.

Previously, we had recommended GRU employees wear face coverings but only required it when coming into close contact with a member of the public.

We are awaiting the arrival of 2,200 reusable face coverings, but you are not required to wear a GRU-issued face covering as long as it meets CDC guidelines. You can find CDC recommendations [here](#). If you have an immediate need prior to the reusable face coverings arriving, please contact your supervisor.

Thank you all for your continued hard work and commitment to keeping our workforce and community safe. Please see the portion of Alachua County Emergency Order 2020-21 that addresses face coverings below:

8. Use of face coverings and personal protective equipment

a. Persons working in or visiting grocery stores, restaurants, pharmacies, construction sites, public transit vehicles, vehicles for hire, and locations where social distancing measures are not possible shall wear facial coverings as defined by the CDC.

b. Face covering includes any covering which snugly covers the nose and mouth, whether store bought or homemade, and which is secured with ties or ear loops. Examples of compliant home-made masks may be found at

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<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>. Persons should not utilize N95 rated masks, as those are critical supplies for health care workers, police, fire, emergency management, or other persons engaged in life/safety activities. Persons who wear face coverings should review the CDC and Florida Department of Health guidelines regarding safely applying, removing, and cleaning face coverings.

- c. A face covering shall not be required for children under two or persons who have trouble breathing due to a chronic pre-existing condition.*
- d. This Order does not change or alter any social distancing requirements imposed by this or in any other Emergency Order.*
- e. Face masks do not have to be worn while eating or drinking.*