



PERQUIMANS COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

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Jonathan A. Nixon, Director

PRESS RELEASE – Lifting the COVID-19 State of Emergency

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 30, 2021

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Effective Friday, April 30, 2021, at 8 a.m., local officials from Perquimans County, the Town of Hertford, and the Town of Winfall lifted the State of Emergency for COVID-19 Response. This State of Emergency was enacted on March 18, 2020 and enabled local officials to impose additional restrictions within the county if necessary.

While we are ending the response phase of the pandemic, we are still working closely with Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) as we have moved into the recovery phase. Since late December, twenty-four Mass Vaccination Clinics have been held and approximately 52% of residents 18 and over have received their first dose with about 46% being fully vaccinated. The most recent COVID-19 data, statistics, and trends reported by ARHS, along with reopening efforts at the state and federal levels no longer constitute a state of emergency.

Emergency Services staff will continue to monitor the data and trends for any changes. In the event of a major change, a new State of Emergency can be enacted by local officials at that time. Even though the State of Emergency has been lifted, supplies, resources, and personnel can still be requested as needed. As always, any important announcements regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic in Perquimans County will be shared on the Perquimans County Emergency Services Facebook Page or the Perquimans County Website at www.perquimanscountync.gov.

While this change has been made locally, Governor Cooper still has statewide Executive Orders in place, and they are enforceable. Please continue to follow the most recent guidance that includes:

- Wearing a face mask or face covering while indoors (no longer mandated outdoors although it is highly recommended in larger groups).
- Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Mass gatherings limited to 100 people indoors and 200 people outdoors.
- Following capacity limitations on certain businesses while meeting the current guidance of the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

Jonathan Nixon stated, “This past year has been extremely challenging for our community and while COVID-19 is still present, we can see a light at the end of the tunnel. Thank you all for your continued support and for following the guidance set forth by state and local leaders to help us move forward.”
