



MADERA COUNTY PUBLIC INFORMATION TEAM

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TITLE: Places of Worship and Salons Now Allowed to Reopen in Madera County

Places of worship, salons and barbershops are now allowed to open in Madera County. The California Department of Public Health made the announcement authorizing the re-opening of churches statewide as of Monday, May 25, 2020. The re-opening of salons and barbershops on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 was also announced for Madera County and others who were previously approved to move forward in an accelerated stage 2. Both changes are effective immediately and were said to be made possible by CDPH based on statewide indicators such as PPE, testing capacity, hospital surge capacity and hospitalizations.

The California Department of Public Health has provided specific guidance for places of worship as well as salons to facilitate a safe reopening. Churches for example must limit attendance to 25% of building capacity or a maximum of 100 attendees. "We are excited that every church now has the opportunity to have live gatherings under the new guidelines that has been given to us as of May 25th from Governor Newsom," stated Tim Echevarria, a representative from the Madera Ministerial Association.

Director of Madera County Department of Public Health, Sara Bosse emphasizes the safeguards in place, "We are continuously monitoring the data and working closely with business and community leaders as we take these steps. The Rapid Contact Tracing Team has proven successful in containing the spread and we will continue those efforts."

Madera County Department of Public Health has developed tools to help businesses reopen safely including a business checklist, business planning template and links to industry guidance. These tools can be found on the business page of the Madera County Public Health website at www.maderacounty.com/covid19business. Individuals with questions may also call 311.

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