

TOWN OF THETFORD, VERMONT

RULE REQUIRING WEARING FACE COVERINGS

INDOORS IN PUBLIC SPACES

Section 1. Authority.

This Rule is adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of Thetford under authority of Act 1, an act relating to temporary municipal rules in response to COVID-19 (2021).

Section 2. Purpose.

The purpose of this Rule is to require all individuals to wear face coverings while indoors at locations that are open to the public in order to prevent and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public health and safety of the Town of Thetford.

Section 3. Requirement to Wear Face Coverings.

All establishments located in the town of Thetford that invite the public into their premises for the purpose of receiving services, purchasing products or otherwise transacting business, shall require both staff and customers (or visitors) to wear face coverings or face shields over their nose and mouth while inside.

Section 4. Exceptions.

Face coverings are not required for:

- Any person officiating or participating in a religious service or activity in which the temporary removal of a face covering is necessary to participate in or complete the religious service.
- Children under 2 years
- A person with a disability who cannot wear a face covering or cannot safely wear a face covering for reasons related to the disability
- A person for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by a workplace risk assessment

Section 5. Other Laws.

This Rule is in addition to all other ordinances and rules of the Town of Thetford and all applicable laws of the State of Vermont. All ordinances, rules, or parts of ordinances, rules, resolutions, regulations, or other documents inconsistent with the provisions of this Rule are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 6. Severability.

If any section or provision of this Rule is held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such finding shall not invalidate any other part of this Rule.

Section 7. Effective Period.

This Rule shall take effect immediately upon the approval by the Selectboard and shall remain in effect for a period not to exceed 45 days following its initial adoption. The Selectboard shall

meet during the 45-day period in which this initial Rule is in effect and vote either to rescind this Rule or to extend it for an additional 30 days. Thereafter, the Selectboard shall meet at a minimum once every 30 days to reconsider this Rule, at which meeting the Selectboard shall vote either to rescind this Rule or to extend it for an additional 30-day period. The filing of a petition under 24 V.S.A. §§ 1972 and 1973, shall not govern the taking effect of this Rule.

ADOPTED by the Selectboard of the Town of Thetford at its meeting on this 13th day of December 2021.

SIGNATURES of Selectboard:
