



March 26, 2020

## Leisure & Recreation Travelers Prohibited from Visiting Buncombe County as Part of “Stay Home – Stay Safe” Declaration

Tonight at 8 p.m., the supplement to Buncombe County's State of Emergency declaration goes into effect designed to further limit exposure to coronavirus and “flatten the curve.” It is scheduled to end at 6 a.m. on Thursday April 9 (*\*incorrectly stated as April 6 in our partner alert yesterday – our apologies for the confusion\**), but may be extended if officials deem necessary.

Important note: Although hotels, bed and breakfast establishments and other lodging operations are considered “essential businesses,” this declaration prohibits overnight stays by leisure and recreation travelers. Current guests are permitted to stay, but any existing reservations by leisure and recreation travelers for the duration of the declaration must be cancelled. Explore Asheville is distributing support documents to lodging partners to communicate with guests.

Furthermore, any leisure or recreation traveler who enters Buncombe County during the declaration period is subject to a quarantine for the duration of their stay, up to 14-days, even if the 14-day period extends beyond the duration of the declaration.

**[» Read more about the full declaration and other clarifying documents here.](#)**

---

## CARES Relief Act to Deliver Economic Support to Travel Workers & Travel Industry

The CARES Act, the largest economic relief package in U.S. history, is expected to be signed into law on March 27 and include major provisions to deliver economic support to travel businesses, travel workers and their families. According to the U.S. Travel Association, the bill provides \$377 billion in loans and

loan forgiveness for small travel businesses, self-employed individuals, and 501(c)(3) nonprofits. >> [Read more here.](#)

---

## Rapid Recovery Lending Program Oversubscribed

We learned today that the \$15 million bridge funding program announced this week by [Golden LEAF Foundation](#) is beyond capacity. Golden LEAF says they are actively seeking additional funding to expand the program, which was designed for businesses that need financing until they can access SBA Disaster or other federal disaster funding.

Applications already submitted are being processed in the order they were received, and the foundation further said, "You are welcome to continue with your application, and we will review it as additional funding becomes available." The fund is administered locally by Mountain BizWorks. >> [Apply here.](#)

---

## Your Input Sought on Business Impacts of COVID-19

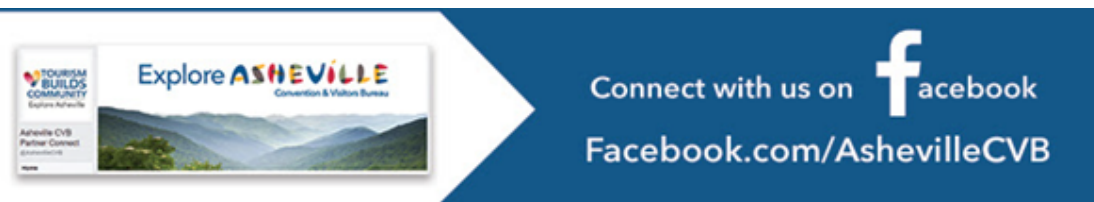
The Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce is continuing to collect responses to a 3-minute survey to share how your business is responding to COVID-19 and what resources you may need. Responses will inform Chamber discussions with elected officials about emergency services and relief. >> [If you haven't yet responded, here's the info.](#)

---

## And on a Lighter Note...

This has been a tough few days, to say the least. In the midst of such upheaval, we all need to take a moment to breathe. Your Explore Asheville team invites you to take a mini, virtual staycation. >> [Check it out here.](#)

---



**Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
27 College Place • Asheville, North Carolina 28801  
[ExploreAshevilleCVB.com](http://ExploreAshevilleCVB.com) | (828) 210-2724

Copyright © 2020 Explore Asheville Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Forward | Unsubscribe**