



Good afternoon. I hope your family is well.

Today begins the North Carolina Governor's order to "Stay-at-Home" for 30 days. This means only essential travel is permitted. The details of this order can be found on the Town's website. The State of Emergency (SOE) orders by our Governor and the Town of Topsail Beach have been issued to slow the spread of COVID-19 so our area hospital system will be able to handle those who need hospitalization. Statistics show that 20% of those infected with COVID-19 will need hospitalization vs. only 3% of those who have the flu virus.

Overall, we have had good cooperation and understanding from our homeowners and visitors. However, we have been made aware that through creative contract language, private homeowners are still renting their property for less than 30 days. In addition, we still have people parking in public areas and walking in areas of the beach that are blocked off for beach nourishment construction. **Please understand these measures have been taken to slow the spread of the virus and save lives.** Anyone found violating the Governor's Executive Order or the Town's State of Emergency, could result in a \$1,000/ day fine for each day the violation exists.

The next 30 days will see the number of COVID-19 cases increase. Please follow all SOE requirements. We will evaluate the Town's SOEs on an ongoing basis and when needed, we will make modifications for the best interests of our homeowners, visitors and town employees. We have many who continue to do their jobs that do support our society and they need to hear and see your gratitude. Being a small town does have some advantages; we can adjust at time to deal with situations – please be polite and know we are here to help.

We are a strong town, so let's show our strength. Please reach out and let someone know you are thinking of them. Raise your American flag & Topsail Beach flag ever morning and find a method to connect to your neighbor that supports **Social Distancing**. May we all continue to have healthy families. Working together; we are saving lives.

Thank you,  
Mayor Steven G. Smith