



**DECLARATION OF STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF  
TOPSAIL BEACH**

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Topsail Beach has duly adopted ordinances pursuant to the provisions of N.C. G.S. 166A Article 1A to determine and proclaim the existence of a State of Emergency and to impose certain prohibitions and restrictions appropriate to meet the emergency; and

WHEREAS, In response to the global spread of the virus and the disease it causes, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency; the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned of the high public health threat posed by COVID-19 globally; and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services ("NCDHHS") confirmed cases of COVID-19 in North Carolina as of March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Governor Cooper issued Executive Order No. 116 titled "Declaration of a State of Emergency to Coordinate Response and Protective Actions to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19, and subsequent executive orders pursuant to COVID-19 and;

WHEREAS, Based upon guidance from CDC and NCDHHS, arrangements must be made to take appropriate action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled and that residents and visitors of Topsail Beach will remain safe and secure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven G. Smith, Mayor of the Town of Topsail Beach does hereby proclaim:

**I**

A State of Emergency exists in the Town of Topsail Beach due to the expected impacts of COVID-19.

## II

The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be for the territorial limits of the Town of Topsail Beach

## III

The Town has instituted the following restrictions:


- 1) All public parking at beach and soundside accesses will be closed until further notice.
- 2) All on-street parking to unauthorized vehicles is prohibited. Government agencies, town employees and any authorized contractor of the Town is exempt from this regulation.
- 3) Town Center Park is closed for all uses.
- 4) Bush Marina facility and the Boat Ramp are closed to the public except for the removal of watercraft. Boat Slip rentals will remain in effect. Government agencies, town employees and any authorized contractor of the Town is exempt from this regulation.
- 5) Discontinuance of All Short-term Rental Operations: Effective immediately, there will be no new rental occupancies of duration less than 90 days allowed within the Town until April 22, 2020. Any individuals currently occupying rental property may fulfill the existing written contract period *but no later than April 4, 2020*. The following exemptions apply:
  - a) Individuals or entities renting within the Town for purposes of providing other essential public services, including the Town's Channel Dredging and Beach Restoration Project, are exempted from the prohibition.
  - b) Permanent residents of the Town having construction on their primary residence. In addition, property owners may, by permit, utilize trailers, RV's or similar structures for housing needs.
  - c) Private contractors working on projects with a valid and current building permit, or those working on projects authorized by state or federal agencies.

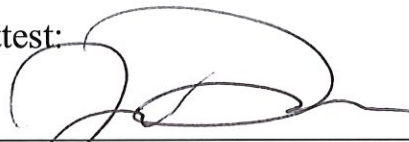
IV

The Town strongly encourages all members of the public to adhere to the guidelines and regulations established by the CDC and the NCDHHS including Social Distancing, limited mass gatherings, and steps to prevent the spread of the virus. The Town encourages all persons to visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov) for continued updates.

V

This Amended Declaration of a State of Emergency shall be effective at 5:00 p.m. on March 23, 2020 and shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Mayor and/or the Board of Commissioners.

  
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Steven G. Smith  
Mayor

Attest:   
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Jessica DeRoche  
Deputy Town Clerk

