



## Fact Sheet on Face Covering – When Do I Need to Wear One?

### Why does social distancing include wearing a face covering?

According to Los Angeles County Public Health, our best community and individual defense against COVID-19 is to wash our hands frequently, avoid touching our eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, avoid being around sick people and practicing physical distancing, especially by staying at home. Face coverings are not a replacement for these evidence-based strategies for slowing the spread of disease; they are just an additional tool that can protect others from possible exposure to respiratory droplets that may come from our mouth when we talk, sneeze or cough.

### What is a face covering?

A face covering can be made of cloth material and be as simple as tying a bandana or scarf across your nose and mouth; or it can be made with cloth to resemble a surgical mask. It must cover over your nose and mouth to be effective. Los Angeles County Public Health is discouraging people from using surgical masks, so as not to negatively affect necessary supplies for health care and other essential workers.

### When do I have to wear a face covering?

People living in Burbank are under the jurisdiction of the Los Angeles County Public Health and must comply with their Safer at Home Order (Order). Here is a link to the most recent Order issued on [May 13, 2020](#):

The Order requires you wear a face covering:

- when entering any business such as the grocery store, a pharmacy, dry cleaner, bank; really any place you are allowed to go to under the Order; or when you are working at any such business and your duties require contact with the public;
- when you pick up food or merchandise either curbside or at the door; or
- **whenever there is or can be contact with people who are not members of your household in both public or private.**

As Burbank City facilities, including libraries and recreation centers, reopen to the public, you must wear a face covering to enter City facilities or to ride any public transit.

### Does this mean I need to wear a face covering every time I leave my home?

The short answer is yes. The long answer is more nuanced, though. You should always have a face covering with you readily handy and put it on if you are about to encounter someone else not part of your household.

## **When don't I have to wear a face covering?**

County Public Health has specific protocols for engaging in certain activities like golf, tennis and use of equestrian centers, which have varying rules for wearing a face covering. Examples follow:

**Golf Courses** - All employees, visitors and golfers must use cloth face coverings at all times.

**Tennis and Pickleball** - Participants are required to wear face coverings at all times except during play.

**Trails:** Trail users over the age of two need a face covering at the trailhead/parking lots and on any trails where there are other groups of people nearby. But, for the most part, if there are only members of your household with you; you are not required to have your face cover on your face. It should be readily available to don if you see someone else on the trail.

In Burbank, if you are on Chandler Bike Path and there are other folks on the path, you should have your face covering on.

**Equestrian Centers** - Face coverings are required at all times while in the common areas, including parking lots and stables. Face coverings **are not** required during riding so long as physical distancing of six feet of separation is maintained.

**Bike Parks, Model Aircraft Areas, Outdoor Shooting Ranges** – Face coverings required at all times.

## **Does everyone have to comply with the face covering part of the Order?**

Infants and children under the age of two should not wear face coverings. Those between the ages of two and eight should use them under adult supervision to ensure that the child can breathe safely and to avoid choking or suffocation. Children with breathing problems should not wear a face covering.

## **Do I need to wash my face covering?**

According to County Public Health, it is a good idea to wash your cloth face covering frequently, ideally after each use, or at least daily.