



**EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-8  
(Amending Executive Orders 2020-3 through 2020-7)**

**Issued by**

**TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT,  
FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County, Illinois**

**April 30, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services declared that COVID-19 presents a public health emergency on January 27, 2020, and on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Cook County Code of Ordinances, Sections 26-36 and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act, 20 ILCS 3305/11, on March 10, 2020, County Board President Toni Preckwinkle found that the circumstances surrounding COVID-19 constitute a public health emergency and issued a proclamation of disaster for Cook County; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Illinois law, on March 16, 2020, the Cook County Board of Commissioners through Resolution 20-2195, extended the March 10, 2020 Proclamation of Disaster through May 31, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District of Cook County (“Forest Preserve District”) is covered under Cook County’s Emergency Operations Plan as a result of the Proclamation of Disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, the March 16, 2020 Resolution 20-2195 further recognized and supported the issuance of Executive Orders by the President to account for the continuity of operations, institute necessary closures and implement any rules or regulations that may benefit Cook County workforce and residents during this extended Proclamation of Disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 20, 2020, Governor JB Pritzker issued a statewide order for all Illinois residents to stay home, unless traveling for essential needs or business, and required businesses not engaged in essential activities to cease all activities except for minimum basic operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the March 20, 2020, Illinois Executive Order 2020-10 <https://www2.illinois.gov/Documents/ExecOrders/2020/ExecutiveOrder-2020-10.pdf> issued by Governor JB Pritzker took effect on Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 5 p.m., across the State of Illinois with a scheduled end date of April 7, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 1, 2020, Governor JB Pritzker issued a statewide order <https://www2.illinois.gov/Pages/Executive-Orders/ExecutiveOrder2020-18.aspx> extending the March 20, 2020 “Stay at Home” order for all Illinois residents to stay home, unless traveling for essential needs or business, and the extension requires businesses not engaged in essential activities to cease all activities except for minimum basic operations through April 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, through the issuance of Executive Orders 2020-3, 2020-5, and 2020-7 the Forest Preserve District engaged in efforts to limit public access to Forest Preserve District buildings and reduce the number of employees required to work on-site; and

**WHEREAS**, Executive Orders 2020-3, 2020-5, and 2020-7 allowed for the continued operation of essential functions of Forest Preserve District government while protecting the public and the Forest Preserve District employee population through a reduction of the footprint on-site in Forest Preserve District buildings; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has continued to rapidly spread throughout Illinois, necessitating updated and more stringent guidance from federal, state, and local public health officials; and

**WHEREAS**, continued social distancing, which requires maintaining at least a six-foot distance between people and the use of masks, is a principle strategy for minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in Cook County and across Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 23, 2020, Governor JB Pritzker indicated that the “Stay at Home” order is extended through May 30, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District continues to join with Cook County, the State of Illinois, the United States and countries across the world in rising to the challenge presented by this pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, the Forest Preserve District amends Executive Orders 2020-3, 2020-5, and 2020-7 to comply with the provisions of Governor Pritzker’s expanded “Stay at Home” order through May 30, 2020 and extends Executive Orders 2020-4 and 2020-6 in the event that the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners does not meet during the month of May.

**NOW THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the State of Illinois, the laws of the State of Illinois, the Ordinances of Cook County and the Forest Preserve District and the March 10, 2020 Proclamation of Disaster, that was extended by the Board of Commissioners through May 31, 2020 on March 16, 2020,

I, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President of the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, **DO HEREBY ORDER**, as follows:

1. Effective April 30, 2020 through May 30, 2020, the Forest Preserve District will continue to focus on essential services that are necessary to operate the Forest Preserve District and reduce the number of employees required to work on-site.
2. Effective April 30, 2020 through May 30, 2020, all Forest Preserve District employee work related travel for conferences, continuing education, seminars, and lobbying activities that may occur outside the County of Cook shall continue to be cancelled and prohibited unless said travel is otherwise deemed essential by the employee's Department Head and the General Superintendent.
3. Employees shall engage in social distancing to prevent and slow the spread of COVID-19 as provided in the State's Executive Order 2020-18 and expanded "Stay at Home" provisions.
4. Effective April 30, 2020 through May 30, 2020, the Forest Preserve District will continue to engage in efforts to limit public access to Forest Preserve District buildings. The Forest Preserve District may allow patrons who comply with Forest Preserve District rules as well as the social distancing requirements outlined in the State's Executive Order 2020-18 and expanded "Stay at Home" provisions, to engage in outdoor activity on Forest Preserve District property such as, by way of example, walking, hiking, running, and biking.
5. If there is no Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners meeting in May, then Forest Preserve District Executive Orders 2020-4 and 2020-6 shall be deemed extended through May 30, 2020.
6. Effective April 30, 2020 through May 30, 2020, the Forest Preserve District may donate equipment, clothing, or other material that is valued in aggregate at up to \$5,000 to the Cook County Department of Emergency Management and Regional Security, Cook County Department of Public Health and/or the Cook County Health and Hospitals System to use such donations directly in support of the County's disaster response or distribute them to Cook County agencies, first responders, municipal partners or not-for-profit organizations assisting with the COVID-19 crisis.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that, this order shall take effect upon its execution and filing with the Secretary of the Board and that immediate notice of this order be delivered by the Secretary to the Board to the seventeen members of the Forest Preserve District Board of Commissioners and General Superintendent, and that immediate notice of this order be delivered by the General Superintendent to Forest Preserve District employees.



Toni Preckwinkle  
President

Dated: April 30, 2020

ATTEST:

Executive Order 2020-8  
April 30, 2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Matthew B. DeLeon". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Matthew B. DeLeon  
Board Secretary

Received and Filed: April 30, 2020