



May 11, 2020

Dear WVMA Member:

Today, Wisconsin DHS Secretary-designee, Andrea Palm, issued [Emergency Order #36](#), which amends Wisconsin's Safer At Home order with regard to certain **retail businesses and drive-in theaters**.

Emergency Order #36 allows all standalone or strip-mall based retail stores to offer in-person shopping for up to five customers at a time, while maintaining required social distancing practices. The order also allows drive-in theaters to operate with restrictions.

This new order DOES NOT make any changes to the Order about veterinary care or health care for animals.

Under the original Safer at Home [Emergency Order #12](#), essential veterinary care or health care for animals IS, and continues to be, allowed. This includes pet boarding and daycare services.

Further, under [Emergency Order #34](#), restrictions on certain animal care businesses were relaxed in order to allow "customer curbside drop-off of...animals for the purpose of having those...animals serviced, repaired, or cared for by the business." Businesses that qualify under this description (e.g., dog groomers), are required to adhere to the following requirements:

- Staff within the business or facility must be limited to one person in a room or confined space at a time, including a car or truck.
- Services must be paid for online or by phone.
- Drop-offs and pick-ups must be scheduled ahead of time to ensure compliance with social distancing requirements in the Safer at Home Orders.
- Customers are not permitted in the business or facility.
- The business may not require a signature by the customer.

For continuous updates pertaining to COVID-19 and veterinary medicine, visit the [WVMA COVID-19 Resources Page](#).

Sincerely,

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Executive Director
Wisconsin Veterinary Medical Association

