



# Pool Retail and Service Companies Now Essential in Michigan

On April 24, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued a [press release](#) and a [new Executive Order](#) that extends Michigan's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" order through May 15. The new order lifted some restrictions on outdoor activities and allows some workers who previously were not allowed to work to resume activities. This order took effect immediately.

**This is great news for our retail and service segments, as we believe this new order provides opportunities for these segments to get back to work, subject to the strict social distancing requirements.**

Specifically, Section 10 of the order permits the resumption of activity by:

- (a.) Workers who process or fulfill remote orders for goods for delivery or curbside pick-up.
- (d.) Maintenance workers and groundskeepers who are necessary to maintain the safety and sanitation of places of outdoor recreation not otherwise closed under Executive Order 2020-43 or any order that may follow from it, provided that the places and their workers do not provide goods, equipment, supplies, or services to individuals, and subject to the enhanced social-distancing rules described in section 11(h) of this order.

In addition, as a result of the efforts of PHTA, our Michigan Chapter, and many individual members, we were able to obtain the following clarification from the Governor's office in direct response to an inquiry concerning the service and maintenance of pools and hot tubs.

*"Pursuant to Executive Order 2020-42 the business is considered essential "If the work is necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences."*

[DOWNLOAD THE GOVERNOR'S LETTER](#)

PHTA believes that the revised order and clarification will:

- Allow retail stores to operate via delivery or curbside pick-up
- Permit service companies to resume maintenance (and opening) of pools and hot tubs

All businesses must adhere to Section 11(h) of the new order, which provides:

(h.) For businesses and operations whose in-person work is permitted under sections 10(c) through 10(e) of this order, the following additional measures must also be taken:

- Barring gatherings of any size in which people cannot maintain six feet of distance from one another.
- Limiting in-person interaction with clients and patrons to the maximum extent possible, and barring any such interaction in which people cannot maintain six feet of distance from one another.
- Providing personal protective equipment such as gloves, goggles, face shields, and face masks as appropriate for the activity being performed.
- Adopting protocols to limit the sharing of tools and equipment to the maximum extent possible and to ensure frequent and thorough cleaning of tools, equipment, and frequently touched surfaces.

In addition, the new order requires that as of April 26, 2020, at 11:59 p.m. “All businesses and operations whose workers perform in-person work must, at a minimum, provide non-medical grade face coverings to their workers.”

PHTA recommends that our members download a copy of [the new order](#) and [press release](#), as well as [this letter](#), to have at their place of business and in their trucks.

Additionally, documents on why maintaining pools and hot tubs is essential can be found at [PHTACoronaUpdate.com](#).

If you have questions regarding the new order, contact PHTA Manager of Government Relations [Brendan Scanland](#).

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