

## Administration

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Tourism rolls out ‘Pledge to Prevent’ for restaurants, businesses providing CDC-compliant experience for customers

**June 12, 2020** – Flagler County’s Tourism Department – Palm Coast and the Flagler Beaches – is rolling out a program for high impact tourism restaurants and businesses that will allow them to demonstrate their commitment to keep their customers safe from the COVID-19 virus.

The “Pledge to Prevent” campaign concept came about as businesses began to reopen and the tourism staff brainstormed ways to help the restaurants and businesses – especially within the hard hit tourism industry.

“We want visitors to have confidence when they patronize a business in Flagler County,” Tourism Director Amy Lukasik said. “This is a voluntary program in which Flagler County tourism businesses commit to clean and healthy standards for their guests and employees to prevent the spread of COVID-19.”

Businesses that take the pledge will receive free assets such as face masks for their employees with the “Pledge to Prevent” seal, and disposable paper placemats for restaurants. These will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis while supplies last. A certificate of commitment and a window cling of the seal will also be distributed to display their commitment.

“There is an incentive for those who participate,” Lukasik said. “Along with receiving the free assets, we are committing to specifically push visitors to these restaurants and businesses. We want to demonstrate to visitors that we take safety and sanitation seriously and we will be advertising and promoting these businesses for that purpose.”

Distribution for the tourism initiative will begin with beachside restaurants and shops for Phase I, followed by mainland restaurants and businesses for Phase II and III. Tourism businesses that are interested in taking the pledge can email [tourism@visitflagler.com](mailto:tourism@visitflagler.com).

By taking the “Pledge to Prevent” restaurants and businesses are committing to the following:

- Proper use of personal protective equipment
- Routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and equipment
- Practicing social distancing and minimized contact

Charles Ericksen, Jr.  
District 1

Greg Hansen  
District 2

David Sullivan  
District 3

Joe Mullins  
District 4

Donald O’Brien, Jr.  
District 5

- Enforcing sick employees to stay home

Flagler County’s Department of Economic Development has adopted this initiative, and will also offer clings and certificates with the Flagler County or a city’s logo versus the Palm Coast and the Flagler Beaches logo. Artwork for the certificates and the clings have been provided to the cities of Bunnell and Palm Coast.

“Here is an opportunity for the County to show it solidarity towards the physical health of the patrons and the economic health of the businesses,” said Economic Development Manager Kat Friel. “We want businesses to regain their strength but it requires a level of responsibility on our part as well.”

Mainland businesses can contact Friel for inclusion at [kfriel@flaglercounty.org](mailto:kfriel@flaglercounty.org).

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All residents and businesses are reminded to abide by Executive and Emergency Orders, and follow Florida Department of Health and CDC guidance.

Additionally, those who are sick and/or told to self-isolate are to: remain at home unless seeking medical care, cover coughs and sneezes, wear a facemask around others, and disinfect touched surfaces daily.

COVID-19 testing is available for Flagler County residents at a variety of locations, please visit [www.FlaglerCounty.org](http://www.FlaglerCounty.org), and following the links for COVID-19 and then select Screening & Testing for the latest options.

COVID-19 health related questions or concerns should be directed to your regular healthcare provider or the Florida Health hotline at 866-779-6121.

COVID-19 business concerns should be directed to the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation at 866-532-1440.

All other COVID-19 government services questions or concerns may be directed your municipality or the Emergency Operations Center at 386-313-4200.

Check for current information on Flagler County’s website [www.flaglercounty.org](http://www.flaglercounty.org), and follow “Flagler County Government” or “Flagler County Emergency Management” on Social Media. The county’s social media team will provide updates through these official accounts:

Flagler County Government

- [Facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerCountyGovernment)

Flagler County Emergency Management

- [Facebook.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.facebook.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Twitter.com/FlaglerEOC](https://twitter.com/FlaglerEOC)
- [Instagram.com/FlaglerEOC](https://www.instagram.com/FlaglerEOC)