



City of Marengo Guidelines for “Outdoor Dining”

As we enter Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois Plan, the State is now allowing for outdoor dining, meaning certain outdoor areas can be used as spaces for eating on either public or private property. The City will address both public and private property outdoor dining.

PUBLIC PROPERTY OPTIONS

The City will be barricading off portions of East and West Washington Street, and the two municipal parking lots on Washington Street. Please see the attached map, which shows the designated outdoor dining area. There will be picnic tables placed in the designated areas, which were kindly donated by the Marengo Park District. Businesses will be permitted to add additional seating to these designated areas. Please note, tables must be at least six (6) feet apart. Any business placing tables within the outdoor dining area is responsible for them. You are welcome to leave tables in these areas, or add/remove them as you wish. Residents will also be permitted to bring their own lawn chairs if they so choose. We ask that Downtown businesses work together to clean and sanitize the tables in the outdoor dining areas. Please help each other out in these times, and cooperate with your fellow business owners. Work together, and please keep these areas clean and sanitary. There will not be port-a-potties in either lot, therefore customers will be permitted to use a business’s public restroom.

Restaurant staff and residents should follow CDC and IDPH guidelines on social distancing when in these areas. Restaurants will be permitted to send servers to the outdoor dining areas, however servers will be required to wear masks.

The City will be placing garbage cans in these designated areas, please use them. Barricades will be placed the morning of May 29th, and these outdoor public dining areas will remain in place for a yet to be determined amount of time.

Closed non-glass containers of alcohol will be permitted outdoors, only within the barricaded designated outdoor dining areas. Customers may purchase food & beer at any of restaurants in the Downtown area and bring it to the designated area for consumption. Residents are not to cross Route 23 with open or closed containers of alcohol. The outdoor dining areas are not intended to be a beer garden. Alcohol consumption in these areas will be limited to 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM.

The City has been in communication with the Chamber of Commerce about this plan as well, so please do not hesitate to call City Hall, the Police Department, or the Chamber if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions. Bars/restaurants requesting to use additional public property adjacent to their place of business for outdoor dining may contact the City. Use of space on Route 23, Route 20, or any parking spaces on a State highway will not be permitted.



PRIVATE PROPERTY OPTIONS

Restaurants and bars with space available on private property (including private parking lots) will be allowed to set up similar outdoor dining areas if they so choose. The guidelines of these outdoor dining areas would be the same as those on public property, such as tables must be at least 6 feet apart, and IDPH, and CDC guidelines should be followed. Similarly, this is not intended to create an allowance for beer gardens. Restaurants and bars wishing to set up outdoor dining areas on private property should contact the City to notify us of your plan to do so. We will require a marked off designated area on private property. Food and alcohol may only be consumed within the designated areas. Restaurants providing outdoor dining options may serve any alcohol as they would during normal operations. Dine-in inside of the restaurant is still prohibited per the Governor's order. Please contact the City with any questions you may have, and to review your outdoor dining plans.

PRIVATE & PUBLIC OUTDOOR DINING

To restaurants, bars, and residents, please use these areas responsibly. This is being done to help our local business owners. If alcohol related issues arise, the City will readjust these guidelines accordingly. There will be dumpsters in the Downtown public property outdoor dining areas which are being donated by MDC. Please use them. Be respectful and responsible in these areas.

If you have any questions on any of these matters please contact City Hall at 815-568-7112, or the Police Department at 815-568-7231.

The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has released guidelines for business and industries to follow to aid in the safe reopening of Illinois. For additional Phase 3 guidelines please see the attached link: <https://ln2.sync.com/dl/091004de0/sgb3qikt-iptpj53f-hdc33v4p-k6v48bfm>

