

The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Principal Chief Richard G. Sneed Vice Chief Alan B. Ensley



EXECUTIVE ORDER # 11 (2020)

May 5, 2020

Closure of Checkpoints

Through strategic planning and safety measures the EBCI has avoided the surge of cases originally anticipated. Those measures included setting up checkpoints to close access to the Qualla Boundary to non-tribal citizens. After consulting with local health officials, the Cherokee Police Department, and Emergency Management staff and considering the measures being implemented in North Carolina, neighboring states, and the Great Smoky Mountain National Parks the EBCI will be implementing adjustments to access to the Qualla Boundary.

The EBCI will be implementing the following changes:

- All checkpoints will be removed to allow for the free flowing of access to the Qualla Boundary starting on Friday May 8th at 10pm. The directional signs signaling the Qualla Boundary is closed will remain in place to deter traffic.
- Cloth face coverings will be mandatory for public spaces.
- Churches may resume services starting Sunday, May 10th, and are asked to limit the
 congregation to 20% of capacity. It is highly recommended that senior citizens and
 those with compromised immune systems refrain from attending services. Cloth face
 coverings must be worn for the full duration of the service.
- There will checkpoints at the entrances to the Food Lion retail plaza to prevent nonresidents from accessing those businesses.
- The curfew for the Qualla Boundary will be lifted starting at 10pm on Friday May 8th.
- Cherokee Enterprise Waters & Permitting System open to non-tribal citizens starting May 15th, 2020
- Fire Mountain Trails, Skate Park & Island Park will be open to the general public starting May 15th.

Adam Wachacha

Chairman Snowbird & Cherokee Co. Township

David Wolfe

Vice-Chairman Yellowhill Township

Tribal Council Members

Tom Wahnetah Yellowhill Township

Bucky Brown

Snowbird & Cherokee Co. Township

Richard French

Big Cove Township

Perry Shell

Big Cove Township

Bo Crowe

Wolftown Township

Chelsea Saunooke

Wolftown Township

Tommye Saunooke Painttown Township

Dike Sneed Paintrown Township

Albert D. Rose Birdtown Township

Boyd Owle Birdrown Township

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Further direction regarding the opening of retail, commercial, and casino operations will be announced at a future date.

It is recommended that senior citizens and those with compromised immune systems continue to follow strict social distancing measures to limit their exposure. Community transmission and the effects of this virus will be continually monitored to determine what measures need to be implemented in the coming weeks.

This authorization is issued under authority granted in Cherokee Code Chapter 166, Article II, and the Declaration of State of Emergency issued on March 13, 2020. It is a supplement and amendment to that Declaration and shall remain in effect while the Tribe is under the State of Emergency.

Richard Sneed, Principal Chief Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians