***Slow the Spread:***

**Lake County Supports Governor’s Mask Mandate**

**July 27, 2020 –** On Saturday, July 24, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz’s Executive Order 20-81, requiring Minnesotans to wear a facemask in indoor places, went into effect.

“Lake County is pleased to see the state take leadership on this issue,” said Matthew Huddleston, Lake County Administrator. “Masks are an important way to help slow the spread of the Corona virus and to protect ourselves, families, neighbors and businesses. Businesses need to stay open and we want to see all residents stay healthy.”

Executive Order 20-81, requires individuals to wear a facemask in indoor places that are open to the public, and outdoors when not able to maintain 6 foot distances. Minnesota is one of 28 states to enact similar mandates. The State of Minnesota is providing four million facemasks to Chambers of Commerce in each county to help make facemasks available to the public through businesses and other outlets.

Throughout this pandemic, Lake County has supported and followed the Governor’s orders and Minnesota Department of Health guidance on actions to slow the spread of this disease, and we encourage all our residents, visitors and businesses to do the same.

The complete Executive Order and Frequently Asked Questions can be found at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/facecoverfaq.html>

Additional information is available at [https://staysafe.mn.gov](https://staysafe.mn.gov/)

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**Contact:** BJ Kohlstedt, Emergency Management Director, 218-226-4444 office, 218-220-7811 cell or [BJ.Kohlstedt@co.lake.mn.us](mailto:BJ.Kohlstedt@co.lake.mn.us)