

3/27/2020

COVID-19 – Restricting Family/Friends/Visitors entering community?

Inquiry: We want feedback from other communities concerning restricting family or friends coming into our communities from travel restricted states. We are encouraging our residents to discourage anyone coming to visit. But the conversation gets stronger if they are coming from certain states. In the end, we can't control the visitors from coming. What are others doing?

Responses:

We sent out a message yesterday that all out of state visitors must self-quarantine for 2 weeks. They cannot use any facilities including the pool. Our common buildings will have been closed for 2 weeks tomorrow

Ditto. We rely on common sense but seems to be none!

Scott Gordon, Atty

Chris, some communities are requesting their residents to show some common sense and respect for the health and safety of their neighbors by not asking friends and relatives to visit. Some have erected signs at the entrances discouraging visitors.

It's very difficult if not impossible to enforce any "no guest/no visitor" rule a community might approve but if the community has closed its pool, clubhouse and other common facilities you'll basically have a situation where the visitors and guests will be forced to "shelter at home"—with little or no contact with residents other than the one(s) who invited them into the community. I would think that the absence of those recreational and other common facilities would help persuade at least a few persons that it might not be the best time to pay a visit to their friends and family in Florida.

If I get any additional input here I will let you know...

I agree with you. Our family has canceled visitations.

We have advised residents to discourage visitation by friends or relatives during this crisis.

At PARK NAME, we have not restricted visitors- not sure how we would do that even if we wanted to. We have, however, restricted access to our pool, the only amenity still open, to shareholders only. If guests are found, they are asked to leave. Our office personnel are monitoring this as are shareholders. They want the pool to remain open, so they are reporting any guest 'trespass' to the office.

We have also cut the number of chairs in the pool area to ten. They have been spaced according to the six-foot CDC guideline, and we have posted signs to not move the chairs.

We will continue to monitor the pool situation. If we can't control numbers, we will have to close it. So far, so good.

I don't believe there is any way we can restrict residents or their guests from coming into our communities. The best we can do is encourage all to limit their contact with others at this time and encourage the social distancing being recommended by our governing agencies.

We should be making our residents aware of the areas folks are being asked to self-quarantine from by officials at this time, such as New York City. This will allow them to take necessary precautions with themselves or their guest(s).

The clubhouses, and pool areas should be closed to discourage gatherings of more than 10 people.

The offices should be meeting with people by appointment only, closed to walk in traffic, and have an area available to speak with the residents and guests at the safe, recommended distance.

I hope this helps.

We have not even discussed this at PARK NAME, but I can see where it might be a good discussion to have. We are now talking about completely closing our corporation buildings and stopping face-to-face contact with the office staff. This whole situation escalated daily!

We are installing attached signs today, Chris. I am sending an email out today: asking residents to limit guests or NO guests at all at this time.

We are not a gated community. The best we could do was send out an email notice to residents asking for not friends or family to enter the park. And, we posted signs at our 2 entrances that say "PLEASE – NO VISITORS. ESSENTIAL SERVICES WORKERS ONLY." (used sign boards we have for annual Flea Market).

Most are abiding. Biggest problem we are having is relatives living in the area – they don't want it to apply to them.