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Communications

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PRESS RELEASE

City of Winter Park coronavirus disease UPDATE #4

WINTER PARK, FL, an internationally recognized, award winning city with multiple accredited agencies (March 25, 2020) The City of Winter Park continues to monitor the status of coronavirus (COVID-19) and is working diligently to protect our community. City leaders reinforce the message to please thank our healthcare workers, public safety responders, restaurant staff, grocery store workers, postal carriers, delivery personnel, trash collectors, and utility workers for continuing to provide services to our community.

ORANGE COUNTY STAY AT HOME ORDER

- March 24, Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings issued a two-week Stay at Home Order effective Thursday, March 26, at 11 p.m.
 - The order applies to all residents of Orange County, with exceptions for businesses and travel deemed "essential."
 - Please access the [FAQs](#) by Orange County to learn what this means for you.
- The Winter Park Police Department is aware of this order and encourages all citizens to comply as directed.

CITY HALL AND FACILITIES CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

- City Hall and city facilities remain closed to the public until further notice. City services and assistance remain available via phone or email.
- The Public Safety Facility at 500 N. Virginia Ave., as well as Fire Stations 62 on Lakemont Avenue and Station 64 on Howell Branch Road, are closed to visitors except for emergencies.
- Recreation facility closures include:
 - Community Center, Cady Way Pool, Showalter Stadium, golf course, tennis center, and all city playgrounds and park amenities as per the Stay at Home Order.
- Public parks that are open greenspaces will remain accessible. Please practice proper social distancing protocol with six feet of space between others.
- Online exercise classes and wellness activities will soon be available via the city's social media and YouTube outlets.
- Winter Park Farmers' Market, held each Saturday, is suspended until further notice.

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES & SERVICES

- Winter Park Fire-Rescue Department is operating normally providing fire and EMS services.
- Winter Park Police Department is operating normally with modified nonemergency responses.
 - For more information, call [407-644-1313](tel:407-644-1313).

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EVENTS & GATHERINGS

- A City Commission work session is scheduled for Thursday, March 26, at 5 p.m.
- A special meeting of the City Commission is scheduled for Monday, March 30, at 5 p.m.
 - Future Commission meetings are to be determined/announced as they are scheduled.
- City advisory board meetings are cancelled until further notice.
- City events/gatherings have been cancelled/postponed until further notice.
 - Access the city's [calendar of events](#) for specific event cancellations or postponements.
- All recreational programming and events for youth, adults and seniors are cancelled.

UTILITY CUSTOMERS

Although utility statements and due dates will remain on schedule, we do understand that some customers may experience difficult financial situations during the pandemic. Therefore, we are suspending our disconnection for nonpayment policy until further notice. As always, for utility billing questions please call [407-599-3220](tel:407-599-3220). For outage/service issues, please call [877-811-8700](tel:877-811-8700).

BUSINESS COMMUNITY

- Orange County Mayor Jerry Demings has ordered all non-essential retail and commercial businesses to close and all residents to stay home from non-essential travel.
- Governor Ron DeSantis' recent Executive Order #20-71 remains in effect including:
 - All restaurants and food establishments must suspend food and alcohol consumption on the premises. They can continue to operate their kitchens to provide delivery or take-out services.
 - Businesses cannot sell alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption. They are able to offer alcoholic beverages for delivery and takeout if accompanied by a food order. IDs are required for all orders that include alcohol.
 - Gyms and fitness centers shall be closed with exception to amenities of hotels with a capacity of 10 or less, amenity of a residential building, interior to a police or fire station, or inside a single-occupant office building.
- Although City Hall is closed to the public, Building & Permitting Services will be reviewing plan submittals and issuing permits electronically via permits@cityofwinterpark.org. Inspections will continue on a case-by-case basis. You can schedule inspections online at [Epay](#) or call [407-599-3350](tel:407-599-3350).
- Grease trap inspections have been suspended until further notice.
- For creative ideas and new initiatives to help local businesses, as well as other important business sustainability initiatives please access the [Winter Park Chamber of Commerce](#) website.

Because information regarding the spread of COVID-19 changes on a daily basis, at minimum, please stay informed by using reliable sources including:

- [cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)
- [cityofwinterpark.org](https://www.cityofwinterpark.org)
- [facebook.com/WinterParkEmergencyInfo](https://www.facebook.com/WinterParkEmergencyInfo)
- twitter.com/winterparkfla
- **OUTREACH** – sign up for the city's emergency notification system (email, text, phone calls)
- [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com) – sign up for your neighborhood information

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