



Date: 04/16/2020

CITY ANNOUNCES UPDATED OPERATIONAL CHANGES AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE ORDER #2020-42

(MONROE, MI) - In accordance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order #2020-42 (Stay Home/Stay Safe) issued on Thursday, April 9th, to combat the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the City announces the following updated procedural changes:

- At the Wednesday, April 15th Special Meeting, Monroe City Council passed a resolution stating that all City of Monroe facilities will remain closed through May 11th, 2020 at 11:59 PM. Essential critical and emergency City operations are not affected by the Governor's Order and will remain in operation. This includes Police, Fire, Water Plant, and Wastewater Plant operations.
- The May 5th Election is scheduled to proceed with the Monroe Public School ballot question. City Hall will be the only precinct open on election day for in-person absentee voting, wherein the voter assist terminal will be available for voters in need of assistance. The Clerk's Office encourages residents to please continue to return absentee applications by mail, email, or the City Hall Drop Box located in the parking lot adjacent to the building.
- As per Chapter 712 of the City's Code, the City of Monroe does not begin enforcement of high grass and weeds ordinance until May 1st annually. The Governor's current executive order, which deems landscaping and mowing contractors as non-essential, is currently effective through April 30th. As such and during this time, the City is evaluating the appropriate actions that will need to be taken in the event Governor Whitmer extends the order past April 30th and pertinent decisions will be announced to the public if needed. Further, in accordance with the Executive Order, the firm contracted for mowing some city-owned property has ceased work until the order is lifted, however, City personnel have continued normal maintenance of City Parks as permitted by the Executive Order.
- Yard waste collection will begin again the week of Monday, April 20th, 2020. Due to anticipated heavy volumes during the week, some yard waste stops may not be picked up on the regular service day. Waste Management crews will work to recover the material as quickly thereafter as possible based on crew availability. The suspension of bulk collection remains in place at this time until further notice. Bulk Collection includes, but is not limited to, furniture, carpet, mattresses, appliances, etc.

- The City of Monroe reminds residents that all City Council meetings and necessary board/committee/commission meetings will be conducted as virtual meetings until further notice. Meetings will be open remotely to the public to follow along and participate during the Public Comment section of the agenda. Virtual City Council meetings will be live streamed to the City's YouTube Channel, www.youtube.com/c/CityofMonroeMichigan, as well as Comcast Cable Communications Channel 18 and 915, and on Charter Communications Channel 190. Participation information, in addition to the upcoming schedule of meetings can be found on the home page of the City's website: www.monroemi.gov

The public should continue to regularly monitor the City's website (www.monroemi.gov), Facebook page, [MyMonroe app](#) push notifications, the City's government channel: channel (18/Comcast or 190/Charter), and local media for updates.

City administration will continue to evaluate how to reallocate staff and resources in the most efficient way possible and monitor the situation as it may pertain to the operations of public facilities. Any changes in addition to those released in recent days will be announced via the communication methods highlighted above.

As a reminder, everyone should be taking the following precautions to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus, including, but not limited to:

- If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19, call your healthcare provider. If you do not have a healthcare provider, call the nearest hospital.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or upper sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home, and avoid contact with others.
- Replace handshakes with elbow bumps.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others when in a public setting (social distancing).

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at Michigan.gov/Coronavirus and CDC.gov/Coronavirus.

The [Monroe County Health Department](#) has a COVID-19 hotline. Please call 734.243.8600, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, if you have questions or concerns regarding coronavirus. Additionally, the latest information on Monroe County statistics can be found at the Monroe County Health Department Coronavirus Dashboard at:

[https://www.co.monroe.mi.us/officials_and_departments/departments/health_department/coronavirus_\(covid-19\).php](https://www.co.monroe.mi.us/officials_and_departments/departments/health_department/coronavirus_(covid-19).php)

Incorporated in 1817, the City of Monroe is a community that has a shared vision that seeks to balance the opportunities of economic development with the stewardship that is required for historic preservation. With a population of 20,733, Monroe is located about 17-miles north of Toledo, Ohio and about 35-miles south of Detroit. The City of Monroe is Michigan's third oldest community, and is also the county seat of Monroe County.

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