



City of Grand Haven

March 24, 2020

Greetings.

You are not alone. Local officials are available around the clock to offer support and assistance during the COVID 19 crisis. We are repeating the message to stay in place, avoid direct social contact and help reduce the opportunity for this virus to spread.

City staff remains on the job, either from home or in the field. You'll see regular Public Safety patrols and Public Works continuing to work to provide essential services. Behind the scenes we have support personnel making sure that people are getting paid and supplies continue to flow.

There is plenty of news about things going on at the State, Federal or international stages though mass media, and our local media are doing a good job of staying on top of the big issues, but there are day-to-day questions you have that we can help answer. Please review these periodic updates and share them on social media and with friends and family members.

- Public Safety patrols remain at full strength. Please call 9-1-1 in the event of an emergency and we will respond. Ottawa County Central Dispatch is fully staffed.
- Your water supply is safe, secure and sufficient. We have full staffing and are platooning to avoid social contact. The North Ottawa Water System (NOWS) is blessed with a deep bench of expert operators.
- Garbage collection will continue. Republic Services is our primary residential collector, and they too are fully staffed. They are evaluating methods to limit social contact, and may be transitioning to cart only service as soon as next week. This is so garbage may be collected mechanically, with drivers not coming in physical contact with private bags or containers. Please stay tuned – if they change the approach to collecting, we will work to get the word out about alternatives for their 500 non-cart customers in the City.
- Please do not flush any type of wipes down the toilet. Even if the package states they are flushable. They are destructive to the sewer system and could cause expensive repairs or sewer back-ups into homes and businesses.
- Please utilize SeeClickFix (App) for any issues you may see around town. DPW will prioritize reports and respond to them as appropriate.
- Many residents will take advantage of mild temperatures and time off to get an early start on yard work, which will increase flow of yard waste (which cannot be landfilled). Yard waste will

continue to be picked up at the curb and we will set containers at Lakeshore and White Pines Schools for City residents starting this week.

- Harbor Transit is providing limited services only – only those in need of food, medicine or medical treatment should be using Harbor Transit.
- Overnight on-street parking restrictions are lifted due to many college students returning home early.
- Curfews are being enforced. Children under 12 must be indoors before 10:00 p.m., under 16 before 11:00 p.m. and under 17 before 12 midnight.
- Food collections are ongoing – there are many among us who need simple basic food. There are drop-off boxes at City Hall, the YMCA and at Love in Action at the corner of Fulton and Ferry. Canned meats, fruits and vegetables are in demand.
- High water remains a threat and we continue to monitor lake and river levels and are actively filling sandbags this week. There is a virtual Town Hall meeting scheduled for March 26 at 6:00 p.m. which will feature representatives from the National Weather Service, EGLE and the US Army Corps. You are welcome to join at

<https://global.gotowebinar.com/join/4845761454354362114/191841636>

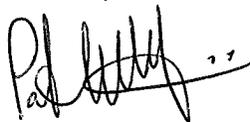
Or call (213) 929-4212

Access Code: 757-997-347

- Residents will also want to get out to our many parks and open spaces. They all remain open, but with limitations:
 - Non-related persons should not be walking or meeting together to chat when you cross paths in our parks or on the boardwalk.
 - Playgrounds, the skatepark, and tennis, pickleball and basketball courts are closed.
 - We are placing a few porta potties along the Boardwalk and restrooms are open at the State Park, Depot and 2nd Street. Otherwise the bathrooms are not heated and cannot be opened until temperatures get well above freezing overnight. You are encouraged not to use public restrooms unless it is an emergency, but we recognize that some people may have an emergency while out walking or running. Having facilities available prevents other considerable health impacts.

Please like the City's FaceBook page for ongoing updates and information. For meeting alerts, go to the Agenda tab at grandhaven.org and subscribe to our email alert service.

Sincerely,



Pat McGinnis
City Manager