

Covid-19 Actions

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The City of Lake Mills is continuing to monitor the status of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. At this point, we are encouraging the community to take the following measures regarding interactions with City of Lake Mills departments, staff, programs and services.

All face-to-face and in-person visits to City government buildings are highly discouraged. We are looking to limit the potential exposure at municipal buildings to protect staff and the general public. This will also help us maintain our ability to continue providing essential services. Please call or email the respective departments in lieu of coming to a particular department to learn what alternate options there are to conduct business over the phone, email or fax.

GENERAL INQUIRIES: If you have a general service inquiry or need assistance from City staff or a consultant, please call or email rather than visit. We can be reached at 920-648-2344 or through the “Contact Us” page on the website. We likely can complete your request or transaction without in-person interactions.

PAYMENTS: If you are looking to make a City payment, please contact the applicable department by phone to discuss options that would avoid face-to-face contact. Options may include on-line payments or use of the dropbox located outside the entrance to City Hall 24/7.

CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS: All non-essential City committee meetings will be cancelled indefinitely immediately. Staff will be severely limiting group contact for meetings and conferences. **For the moment** City Council meetings will continue with the Council’s regular 3/17/20 meeting scheduled and the agenda posted. The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is set for 4/7/20 at 7 PM at City Hall. We will be separating the chairs to discourage close proximity of attendees. However, we are encouraging the general public to consider foregoing in-person attendance in favor of viewing the live broadcast on cable TV or streaming or the recorded meetings on the City’s Youtube channel.

Public comment may be sent in writing by email or mail, prior to any scheduled meeting, to the City Clerk for consideration by the appropriate council, board, committee or commission at such meeting.

CITY HALL ACCESS: City Hall staff will remain working, either at City Hall or remotely, and will be available to answer questions regarding City services. Although, face-to-face interaction is highly discouraged. The general phone number for City Hall is 920-648-2344. General email inquiries may be emailed through the “Contact Us” page on the website. City offices will be open, but expect limited lobby contact or even closure.

ABSENTEE VOTING: The Vote Must Go On - April 7, 2020, Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote.

Requesting a Ballot by Mail: If you are concerned about appearing in person in the Clerk’s office for absentee voting or at the polls on Election Day due to the Coronavirus outbreak,

you have the option of having your ballot mailed to your home. To request a ballot be mailed to you at home please visit the MyVote website (<https://myvote.wi.gov/en-us/>) using google chrome as your web browser. You may be required to submit photo identification with your application. Please visit the Bring it to the Ballot (<https://bringit.wi.gov/>) website for information on photo identification. The deadline for requesting a ballot by mail is 5:00 p.m. on April 2, 2020.

Registering to Vote: You can also register to vote online through the MyVote website. To register to vote online, your address on your driver's license or identification card must be current. You can change your address online with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Please allow 24 hours after you change your address with the Department of Transportation before registering to vote online. You can also print your application from this site and mail it to the clerk's office. Proof of residence is required with your mailed application. The deadline to register to vote online or by mail is March 18, 2020. After this date, you must appear in person. Please see the City of Lake Mills webpage (<http://www.ci.lake-mills.wi.us>) for more information on deadlines and proof of residence.

COMMUNITY CENTER CLOSURE:

The Lake Mills Community Center is committed to the health, well-being and safety of our entire community. In an attempt to keep all of our customers and staff members healthy and avoid exposure to the COVID-19 virus the Community Center will be closed to the public effective Wednesday, March 18 through Sunday, March 29. This decision was not made lightly, but our shared space with the senior meals program and the high-risk population leads to a strong reaction.

This closure will be reassessed as we near the end of the two-week period and decisions will be made based on the impact the COVID-19 virus is having at that time.

The services that will continue are congregate meals, home delivered meals, case management services and driver escort services. The congregate meal site will remain open as of now, but will close by directive of Jefferson County. If the congregate meal site closes those who attend will be offered a home delivered meal.

Since the home delivered meal program and driver escort service depend on volunteers, who are primarily over the age of sixty, we will allow them to determine if they are comfortable continuing to volunteer for these programs. Senior Center staff will take over the delivering of meals if needed.

Case managers will remain in contact with their clients via phone and ensure that their needs are being met.

This closure will be reassessed as we near the end of the two-week period and decisions made based on the impact the COVID-19 virus is having at that time. Community Center information will be available at 920-648-2344 and updates will be placed on the City of Lake Mills website (<http://www.ci.lake-mills.wi.us>).

LAKE MILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY CLOSURE: L.D. Fargo Public Library will be closed starting Monday, March 16, 2020.

Per our guidelines, the library planned to close to the public when the Lake Mills Area School District canceled classes due to any viral outbreak. On Sunday, March 15, the LMASD decided to close all public schools immediately in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The Governor's order also recommends not allowing groups of more than 50 people to congregate in an area. Therefore, the Library is closing to the public immediately as well. At this time, we will tentatively plan to re-open when the schools re-open on April 6. This will be subject to change based on recommendations from local health officials.

We take enormous pride that the library serves as a community gathering spot, where an average of over 600 people go through our doors each day. Unfortunately, the nature of this virus makes it important that we play our part in the effort to maintain the necessary "social distancing" needed to help keep our community members and library staff members safe. We do not take any decision to close or limit our services lightly in any way.

We will share more information as available about limited services planned for the time we are closed. The library continues to offer ebooks, eaudiobooks, and digital magazines through the library website. Thank you for your patience. Please watch the Library website (<https://www.lakemills.lib.wi.us>) and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/LDFargo>) for updated information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PROGRAM CHANGES:

The Police Department is suspending DARE, Police Academy, and EMS responses. We are encouraging residents to call us with questions or complaints that can be handled over the phone instead of coming to the PD. Our non-emergency phone number is 920-648-2354. Please visit our website (<https://lakemillspolice.us>) for additional information.

Emergency services to the public are still operational and available either online or via phone or email. Departments are making efforts to ensure minimal disruption to public services during this time. A drop-box is available outside City Municipal Building doors for those dropping off permits, payment, or other paperwork that would normally be dropped off in person at the front counter.

LAKE MILLS MUNICIPAL COURT CANCELLATIONS:

The Municipal Court Judge, Honorable Vince Guerrero, has canceled court for the rest of March and for the month of April. We will do what we can via telephone (Pre-Trials/Juveniles) but most will be rescheduled for our future court proceedings which will be communicated by mail. Call the Lake Mills Municipal Court Clerk at 920-350-7063 or email courtclerk@ci.lake-mills.wi.us with questions or concerns.

LAKE MILLS UTILITIES:

Utilities divisions housed within the Lake Mills Light and Water Building are still operational and services provided — including electric and water service provision, meter reading, and management — will be available online or via phone or email. The Wastewater Utility is still operational and services provided. The Wastewater Building will be closed to walk-in traffic. All meetings scheduled in the Conference room at the Light and Water building have been canceled.

Please call 920-350-7064 for Utility billing questions.

LAKE MILLS STREETS AND PARKS/FORESTRY DEPARTMENTS:

The Streets and the Parks and Forestry Departments of the City are still operational and services provided. The building will be closed to non-department personnel.