Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation Awareness Report
3:00 pm, Sunday, March 15, 2020

In the face of an extreme risk of COVID-19 person-to-person transmission, the National, Commonwealth and City’s State of Emergency remains in effect and until further notice.

Easthampton City Hall, the Council of Aging, our Public Schools are closed to the public beginning Monday, March 16, 2020, through Friday, March 27, 2020.

The Mayor’s office will send out a daily 3:00 pm, Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation Awareness Report for the duration of the City’s State of Emergency. The report will be released over verified City Facebook pages, the City’s website www.easthamptonma.gov, and Easthampton Media. These Situational Awareness Reports are overviews of each day with crucial information that relate to core municipal services but do not represent all updates available.

Keep completely informed using these websites: www.cdc.gov and www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus

To stem the spread of COVID-19, we urge every person to:

- Practice social isolation—**leave home ONLY if necessary**
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water as much as possible
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers ONLY if soap and water are not available
- Do not touch your face
- Cover coughs/sneezes with tissues, or cough/sneeze into the inner elbow
- Avoid large social gatherings – such as grocery stores, pharmacies for **ESSENTIAL** items only

**Easthampton Municipal Government**

For continuity, core City operations and services will continue through the State of Emergency. City employees are checking emails and voicemails as frequently as possible. The majority of City employees are working remotely or on a limited schedule. During the State of Emergency, emails and calls are prioritized for urgent COVID-19 issues. Direct urgent inquiries to mayor@easthamptonma.gov or 413-529-1400 ext 143.

City employees will receive more information directly from Personnel about essential functions and payroll.

**Easthampton Public Buildings**

All public buildings are closed to the general public. Only essential employees are allowed in public buildings until further notice. If you are unsure if you are an essential employee, please contact your department director.
City Council

Governor Baker issued an Executive Order regarding Open Meeting Law and COVID-19. Per his order, the City Council President is working to enable remote participation by Council, Committee and Board members for meetings essential to the operation of City business.

The City will release a separate directive regarding Open Meeting Law, COVID-19, and core public meetings in the next two days.

Public Safety

The Public Safety Complex lobby at 32 Payson Avenue will be an accessible area to the public. However, the public will not have access to community meeting rooms. Drug drop off, and firearms licensing processing are suspended until further notice. Public contact with Dispatch will be via the lobby phone. Additionally, the sharps dispensary container is in the lobby.

Easthampton Public Schools

Please email or call. Do not come to the Easthampton Public School’s central office or individual school buildings – EXCEPT MAPLE FAMILIES THAT ARE PICKING UP BROWN BAG MEALS AT EHS. School administration will be present in the buildings, and staff will be checking emails.

We will be providing learning and enrichment activities by midweek for families. This is a fluid situation and subject to change; we are in constant contact with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as well as other state agencies. We are adjusting our course as new information is provided.

Food Support for Students: We have worked with food services to develop breakfast and lunch brown bag options. We have prioritized the Maple Elementary School due to its status as a Community Eligibility Program. They will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch between 8:30 am, and 10 am at Easthampton High School beginning on Monday. On Monday, we will finalize a plan for the remaining schools and communicate that plan to families.

Previously Scheduled Activities: We are working to reschedule things wherever possible in the coming weeks. We understand that there will be questions about AP classes, college application deadlines, prom, and other special events. However, we cannot yet answer this at this time. The MIAA (Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association) has moved spring sports start to the earliest March 30, 2020.

School Employee Information

It is expected that all staff will check work email during this closure to remain informed. More information will be distributed directly to the staff. Custodial staff are asked to report to the schools to clean and disinfect using deeper disinfection equipment.
Council on Aging and Enrichment (COA)

The COA is suspending all on-site programs and services until further notice. The COA serves residents who are most at risk of contracting the virus. The closing of the building is a proactive step to protect the patrons of the COA. The staff of the COA is working and available during regular business hours to provide alternative arrangements for seniors who need access to essential services. For questions, call 413-527-6151.

Keep Informed

Please access these reliable sources of information for the coronavirus (COVID-19) throughout the State of Emergency:

- www.cdc.gov
- www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus
- www.Easthamptonma.gov
- www.epsd.us
- www.facebook.com/easthampton413
- https://www.facebook.com/easthamptonfire/
- https://www.facebook.com/EasthamptonPD/
- https://www.facebook.com/EasthamptonHealth/