

Monday, March 23, 2020

Dear Community Members of Delta County:

The situation involving COVID-19 is very fluid, with information being rapidly updated. As mentioned in last Friday's press release, Delta County Administration will continue to issue updates every Tuesday and Friday, in conjunction with the release of new Executive Orders.

As of today, March 23, 2020, Governor Whitmer has issued Executive Order 2020-21, Stay Home Stay Safe. This order is a temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life. It is now mandated that Michigan residents remain within their homes, with minimal exceptions. Further, this Executive Order also outlines essential businesses and government functions. An Executive Order is a directive issued by the Governor and holds with it the force of law. Please visit www.Michigan.gov/coronavirus to read this order in its entirety.

The following county departments are classified as essential and will remain available to service the public on a limited basis:

- a. The Clerk's Office/Register of Deeds
- b. Administration/Finance
- c. The Treasurer's Office
- d. Child Advocacy Center
- e. Veteran's Services
- f. Airport
- g. Maintenance/Housekeeping
- h. Emergency Management
- i. Prosecutor's Office/Victim's Services
- j. Delta County Sheriff's Department/Jail/Road Patrol/Search and Rescue

Under this executive order, county employees are required to adhere to CDC guidelines and must practice social distancing when interacting with the public. County offices will remain closed to the public, with the exception of the Delta County Airport, until the expiration of Executive Order 2020-21, which is 11:59pm on April 13, 2020.

Delta County Administration is aware of the burden this puts upon its citizens. We are asking the public to please cooperate with this order to help diminish the spread of COVID-19.

Due to the increase of cases in Michigan, community mitigation strategies are crucial to slowing the transmission of COVID-19. The basic personal-hygiene measures to prevent the spread of the virus are as follows:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with an alcohol content greater than or equal to 60%
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and immediately dispose of the tissue
- Avoid handshakes
- Avoid contact with people who are sick;
- Stay home when you are sick
- Stay home unless conducting one of the exempt functions
- Practice social distancing, maintaining 6 feet of space between you and other individuals
- Sanitize all areas of your home and work that are exposed to multiple individuals

We urge the public to please utilize the county (www.deltacountymi.org) or state (www.Michigan.gov/coronavirus) websites for the most up to date and accurate information regarding COVID-19 and the steps necessary to lessen exposure and spread within the community. While social media can be a helpful tool in relaying information, please be cautious of information sources. Local officials want to make sure that the public does not panic, but rather, is educated, prepared, and helping one another, especially vulnerable populations. We are working through this as a community and need to stay as united and supportive as possible to ensure the health and well-being of all community members.