TOWN OF MARSHFIELD’S EMERGENCY UPDATE #3

March 20, 2020

A local State of Emergency was adopted by the Board of Selectmen at their Emergency Meeting on March 17th. This will open the way for state and federal assistance, if it becomes available. A copy of the Emergency Declaration can be viewed on the Town’s website.

Town Hall, the Ventress Library, Marshfield Senior Center, and the Recreation Center at Coast Guard Hill remain closed to the general public in order to assist in combating the pandemic caused by COVID-19 virus, protecting our residents and employees.

The Marshfield Senior Center is closed but the staff reports to work as usual. All programs have been suspended except for Meals on Wheels, information and referral, limited social services and the Council on Aging bus services to pharmacies, grocery stores, and in-town medical appointments.

Contractors in need of Building Permits must call ahead to the Building Department at 781-834-5555 to make an appointment. The Building Department will only be conducting outside inspections during the pandemic.

In an overabundance of precaution, The Board of Health has directed gyms, massage parlors, nail salons, and micro-blading to cease all personal care services. Stellwagon Brewery will be allowed to conduct retail sales but no drinking in the establishment. Establishments which have self-service items, hot and cold salad bars will be told to pre-package these items for the consumer to buy.

The Board of Health will only conduct indoor housing inspections in the event of endangerment to human health and safety. All outdoor septic inspections will take place as scheduled. The Visiting Nurse will be available on Thursdays from 12:30 to 1:30 by scheduled appointments only (no walk in service shall be provided). The Board of Health strongly recommends all Town employees that have traveled out of the country to self-quarantine in an abundance of caution. The Board of Health office can be contacted @ 781-834-5558 with any other questions.
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The Board of Health continues monitoring all small business in Town for compliance with closures or restrictions in operation. Situations can change instantly please weigh the RISKS vs. the REWARD before choosing to do any activity. PREVENTION is the BEST MEDICINE. STAY at HOME.

Key Public Health Messages for All Residents:

Protect yourself by following public health advice about keeping your hands clean and covering coughs and sneezes. Stay home if you are sick. Protect others who are most at risk of COVID-19 by keeping your distance from people (at least 6 feet away from others), especially those who are older, and people living with chronic health conditions.

If you are outside, avoid crowds. Don’t shake hands or hug. Stay connected to friends and loved ones by phone or through other technology. Get information from trusted sources. Visit https://www.mass.gov/covid19 for the latest news, case counts, and lab testing results.

Take care of your emotional health and help others do the same. If you need emotional support during these stressful times, call 2-1-1 and choose the “CALL2TALK” option.

All Town of Marshfield bills can be paid on-line by going to the Town’s website at www.townofmarshfield.org and selecting the icon “Find it Fast” and it will say on-line bill payment. Residents can also drop their payments into the payment slot at the front of Town Hall. Beach stickers and transfer stickers may be purchased on-line for your convenience. The Town is in the process of establishing remote meeting protocols for all boards, commissions and committees to continue the essential business of the Town.

Persons who have experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19 are directed not to visit any of the facilities, but instead seek medical assistance and self-quarantine.

The Library has cancelled curbside delivery effective immediately. The Recreation Department has closed all parks and playgrounds effective immediately to keep our children and family members safe. Please remind your children not to congregate in large groups at the parks and playgrounds. We want everyone to be safe.

The Marshfield Fire Department will be suspending all inspections except for smoke detector inspections for the sale of real estate. The MFD will also be limiting public access to all fire stations except for emergencies. For anyone calling 911 or requests Emergency Services from
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first responders, please notify the dispatcher on the telephone if anyone in the residence has any flu like symptoms or any respiratory issues.

Requests for any emergency services are available 24/7 through the Police, Harbormaster, Fire and Department of Public Works. Town employees continue to report to work unless otherwise directed by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Health. This order involves Town Hall and the specific Town buildings and facilities expressly stated in this directive. The Marshfield Public Schools will be closed for three weeks. For more information on our schools, please check out the Marshfield Public School website at www.MPSD.org.

Grab N Go Breakfast & Lunch Program

Our Grab n Go breakfast and lunch bags will continue to be available for those families in need of nutritional support in addition to those who rely on the school lunch program. You can drive to the Boys & Girls Club on Proprietors Drive between 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM for pick up. If there are any changes to the pickup plans, we will communicate that out over the weekend.

MPSD Community of Learning

As noted previously, our staff members have been sharing a variety of online educational links that students from all grades can use on a voluntary basis while we are out of school. It’s been great to see so many students already engaging in these activities.

Here is the link to our MPSD Community of Learning. This will continue to be updated on a weekly basis throughout the school closure.
If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact your building principal.

For more information on the COVID-19 virus please visit the following websites: Board of Health, Town of Marshfield at www.marshfield-ma.gov/board-health or the DPH at www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus or the CDC at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

State Health Officials Announce Launch of 2-1-1 to Provide COVID-19 Information and Referrals 24/7.

Together we will all get through this very difficult situation. Please know that our first responders are working around the clock to keep us all safe. We ask that you remind your children not to get together in groups. It is very important that we all remember follow social distancing protocols when interacting with everybody.

Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

Michael A. Maresco, Town Administrator