

The City of Wautoma is continuing to monitor the status of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. On March 12, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency for the State of Wisconsin due to COVID-19. With guidance from the local health officials, the City is taking enhanced measures to protect the safety of community members and employees by increasing social distancing, while maintaining important services for residents. The City of Wautoma plans to close to the public beginning March 18th, 2020 through April 3rd, 2020, but staff will still be available by phone at 920-787-4044.

WAUTOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT: The Wautoma Police Department will remain active and can be reached through the non-emergency number at 920-787-3321 or dial 9-1-1 in case of an emergency.

WAUTOMA PUBLIC LIBRARY CLOSURE: Also in the interest of safety of our community and library employees, the Wautoma Public Library will be closed starting Wednesday, March 18. 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. Thank you for your patience. Please watch our website <https://www.wautomalibrary.org/> and Facebook page for updated information and free resources.

ABSENTEE VOTING: City staff continues to monitor updates from the Wisconsin Elections Commission on best practices for the upcoming spring election on April 7. If the State of Wisconsin does not amend the requirement to provide in-person absentee voting, City Hall will be open for that purpose only on Monday, March 23 through Friday, April 3 by appointment only (call ahead). However, electors are strongly encouraged to submit an absentee ballot by mail, which can be requested online at <http://myvote.wi.gov> by April 2 or by submitting an absentee ballot application by mail or drop-box. Please remember that photo I.D. (or copy of photo I.D.) is required to receive a ballot. Absentee ballot applications will be available just inside the City Hall foyer, although primary doors will be locked and closed to the public. The public voting test will be the only exception where doors will open to the public. That test is on April 2nd at 10:00 a.m.

CITY GOVERNMENT MEETINGS: All non-essential City meetings will not be held for the time being. The Finance Committee scheduled for April 6th and City Council meeting scheduled for April 13th will still be convened.

WAUTOMA MUNICIPAL COURT CANCELLATIONS: The Municipal Court Judge, Paul Mertz, has cancelled April and May court dates. Hearings will be rescheduled for June court proceedings. Letters will be issued to individuals with April court dates. Tickets can still be mailed in, turning into the outside drop box or paid online at cityofwautoma.com. Call 920-787-4044 or email wautmunct@centurytel.net with questions or concerns.

PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES: All public works and utilities staff are continuing to provide services while taking enhanced measures to limit interactions for the safety of our employees and staff. They will be temporarily stopping all meter change outs and water shut-offs. Public works and utility facilities are closed to visitors at this time. Water bills can still be mailed in or turned into the outside drop box at City Hall.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: The Waushara Area Chamber of Commerce is continuing to provide resources and information to area businesses. The Chamber Executive Director is Chelsie Bohler and can be reached at 920-787-3488 or wausharachamber@gmail.com

SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION: For news about the Wautoma Area School District's response to the Covid-19 outbreak, visit their Facebook page or website at <https://www.wautomasd.org/>.

GENERAL HEALTH INFO: Prevent the spread - wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, cover your coughs and sneezes, and stay home when you are ill. The Waushara County Health Department has issued recommendations for individuals, families, and businesses to consider regarding COVID-19. That information is available here:

<https://www.co.waushara.wi.us/pView.aspx?id=13432&catid=636>

You can also follow the latest information from the Center for Disease Control at

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>.

SERVICES:

- Family Health/La Clinica can be reached at 920-787-5514
- Aurora Pharmacy in Wautoma can be reached at 920-787-6940

Please check back to this Facebook page for updates as this is a very fluid situation and this information is subject to change. Thank you to all of our first responders and municipal staff, including police, fire/EMS, public works, utilities and municipal office employees, for continuing to maintain safety and order in our community during these challenging circumstances. We wish health and safety for all our community members.