



*City Manager's Office*

Cedar Springs City Hall  
66 S. Main St. PO Box 310  
Cedar Springs, MI 49319

03-16-2020

Citizens of Cedar Springs,

The City of Cedar Springs takes very seriously the dangers posed by the novel COVID-19 virus and the severe acute respiratory health problems that it can cause. Many persons exposed to the virus will develop flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, fatigue and shortness of breath. More serious infections, especially in vulnerable patient groups, may suffer pneumonia, organ failure and death. Vulnerable patient groups include persons aged 60 and older and persons with underlying health problems such as hypertension, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, COPD and cancer.

The current best practices to prevent infection or spreading the disease are to frequently wash your hands, avoid touching your face, use of facemasks by those already sick and self-quarantine/social distancing away from other people.

As many of you already know, the Governor has ordered all schools closed until at least April 6<sup>th</sup> and many bars, restaurants, theaters and other locations of public congregation are likely to close or limit public access in the near future. This unprecedented situation requires a strong and aggressive response in order to maintain the public health and the City encourages all persons and organizations to take all necessary precautions for the well-being of the public, employees and emergency personnel.

Right now, the problem seems small, avoidable and a world away, however, COVID-19 has infected at least 137,000 persons and killed over 5,000 worldwide. Those numbers will absolutely go up, please take this seriously. Everything that is being done right now might appear alarmist and overblown but after a pandemic takes hold, nothing done afterwards will seem adequate.

**At this time, the Cedar Springs City Hall will be closed to the public on a week to week basis, starting Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup>, as we actively monitor the situation.** City employees will continue to work at City Hall and throughout the community and will address citizen concerns by phone, e-mail and by appointment as may be necessary. Some public meetings may be canceled or postponed until it is safe to hold them. Any public meetings that are held will be done so according to all laws, including the Open Meetings Act. However, the City encourages any persons showing symptoms of COVID-19 or who might have been in contact with the disease to avoid all public gatherings, including City meetings.

For additional resources regarding COVID-19 and how to respond to it please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Kent County Health Department for the most up to date information:

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

<https://www.accesskent.com/Health/coronavirus.htm>

If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns about the City's COVID-19 response please contact the City Manager by phone or e-mail.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Womack".

Mike Womack City Manager  
City of Cedar Springs  
66 S Main St, Cedar Springs, MI 49319  
manager@cityofcedarsprings.org