

Coronavirus Disease 2019 **COVID-19**



TONIGHT, MARCH 16TH @ 6:00 p.m.

TO LISTEN BY AUDIO

Toll Free: 929-205-6099

Meeting Code: 723 160 865

TO VIEW THE MEETING VISIT:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<http://bit.ly/HopewellCovid19>

Password: 867065

Our you may visit: <https://zoom.us/j/723160865?pwd=dFIFNGx3cGw2OEIcCtBOGJWZTMrZz09>

CITY COUNCIL

Jasmine E. Gore, Mayor, Ward #4
Patience Bennett, Vice Mayor, Ward #7
Debbie Randolph, Councilor, Ward #1
Arlene Holloway, Councilor, Ward #2
Johnny Partin, Councilor, Ward #3
Janice Denton, Councilor, Ward #5
Brenda S. Pelham, Councilor, Ward #6

John M. Altman, Jr., City Manager
Sandra Robinson, City Attorney
Ronnie L. Arrington, City Clerk

CITY OF HOPEWELL
Hopewell, Virginia 23860

AGENDA

PHONE: 541-2249
FAX: 541-2248

e-mail: info@hopewellva.gov
www.hopewellva.gov
rarrington@hopewellva.gov

Date: March 16, 2020

**HOPEWELL CITY HALL
VIRTUAL MEETING**

Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EMERGENCY MEETING
COVID-19

6:30 p.m. Call to order and welcome to visitors

Roll Call – Hopewell City Council

SUGGESTED MOTION: To amend/adopt agenda

Roll Call – Hopewell City Council

Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Commonwealth of Virginia COVID-19 Cases of March 16, 2020 – Mayor Gore

City of Hopewell COVID-19 as of March 16, 2020 – Mayor Gore

City of Hopewell Incident Report – City Manager, March Altman

Hopewell City Public Schools – Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Melody Hackney

City of Hopewell Treasurer’s Office – City Treasurer, Joan Gosier

The City of Hopewell Redevelopment & Housing – Executive Director, Steve Benham

Special Announcements from Regional Partners – Mayor Gore

- City Manager, March Altman

Adjournment

INCIDENT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

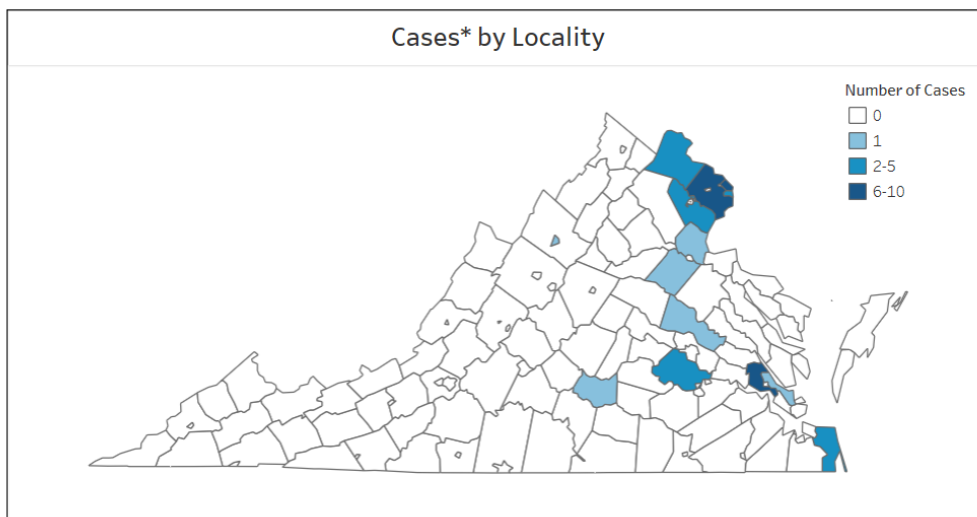
Incident Briefing: 1	1. Incident Name: COVID-19	2. Date/Prepared 3/13/2020	3. Time Prepared 1400
--------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------

4. Map/Sketch

As of 1400 hours March 16, 2020:

COVID-19 Cases in Virginia

Number of People Tested^ 489	Cases* 51
---	--



Health District	Locality	Number of Cases
Peninsula	James City County	10
	York County	1
Fairfax	Fairfax County	10
Arlington	Arlington County	9
Loudoun	Loudoun County	5
Virginia Beach	Virginia Beach City	4
Prince William	Prince William County	3
Rappahannock	Spotsylvania County	1
	Stafford County	1
Chesterfield	Chesterfield County	2
Alexandria	Alexandria City	2
Piedmont	Prince Edward County	1
Chickahominy	Hanover County	1
Central Shenandoah	Harrisonburg City	1

* Positive Tests Among People Tested

^ Test Results Received by Public Health From All Reporting Labs

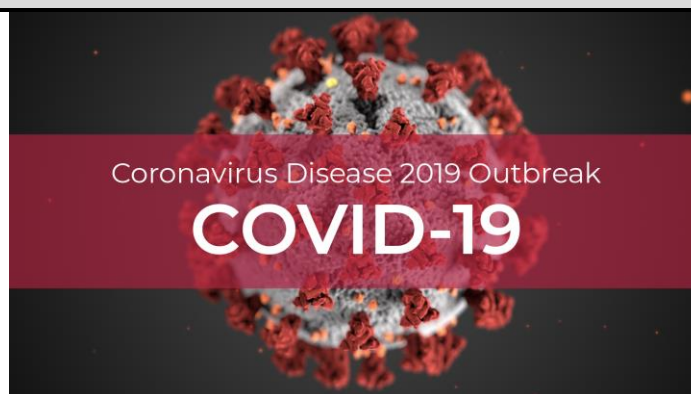
Updated: 3/16/2020

7. Prepared by: Name: B. Ruppert _____ Position/Title: Emergency Management **Signature:** _____

INCIDENT BRIEFING (ICS 201)

Incident Briefing: 1	1. Incident Name: COVID-19	2. Date/Prepared 3/13/2020	3. Time Prepared 1700
--------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	---------------------------------

5. Summary of Current Actions



Critical Takeaways On VDH Response in Central Virginia:

- Currently only three isolated cases of the COVID-19 in Central Virginia. Both are isolated and traceable.
- Testing capability is still limited, although additional facilities capable of testing have come online in the last couple of days.
- The VDH central district is currently working on a regional capability for testing, but rollout will be contingent upon the availability of critical personnel and supplies.
- Due to the shortage of testing capability statewide. All patients must be evaluated by a physician before a test can be requested (people cannot request a test, just because they want to be tested.)

City Operations:

Objective 1:

Implement Social Distancing, Personal Protective Equipment, and Sanitation and Policies to protect City employees and the public for the duration of the event.

- All critical sanitization and personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies have been inventoried and any projected shortfalls of currently available supplies have been ordered for use by City departments who require them. A distribution/training plan is being put in place to get them to the end-user.
- Hopewell Fire & Rescue personnel have been trained on the current response plan for possible COVID-19 patients, and provided with appropriate PPE to address the risk. Refresher training on PPE and decontamination procedures, as well as screening and reporting has been provided as well in the training. **Additional PPE supplies have been ordered.**
- Sports programs, the Community Center, and Beacon Theatre shows have been canceled/closed to limit unnecessary social interaction within the City.
- Each department is developing department specific social distancing policies for the employees that come in contact with the public. **This includes using Zoom meeting when 3 or more employees must interact together.**
- **City offices are closed to the public for the next two (2) weeks beginning March 17, 2020. City employees will continue to report to work as normal. Tele-work per the City's policy is in effect.**
- **Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has advised that ALL public meetings be cancelled for the next 30 days.**

Incident Briefing: 1	1. Incident Name: COVID-19	2. Date/Prepared 3/13/2020	3. Time Prepared 1700
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VDH is recommending churches cancel worship services, bible study, etc. for the next 30 days. • The Homeless Shelter will close effective Wednesday, March 18 at 8:00 a.m. • City Convenience Center is closed to the public through March 31st. • Public restrooms at parks are closed. • All City social events are canceled. • Development will only be responding to property maintenance inspections where there is an immediate life/safety issue. • IT solutions have been implemented for conference call, screen sharing, and call forwarding capability to support tele-work, and reduce meetings, etc. • Non-emergency calls for service have been limited to protect essential employees and the public. • All services that can be moved online, to the phone, or to a drop box are being evaluated for such, or are being transitioned now. 			
<p><u>Objective 2:</u></p>			
<p>Provide appropriate internal and external communications to inform employees and the public for the duration of the event.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City will establish a Call Center for citizens. The Call Center number will be 541-2391. The phone line will be available beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020, and will operate 8:30 am to 8:00pm Monday-Friday until emergency operations cease. • Twice daily conference calls with Department directors has been implemented to ensure information sharing and incident planning continues on a daily basis. • Local State and federal guidance will continue to be passed on to the public through all of our communication avenues, including press releases, the webpages, social media, etc. 			
<p><u>Objective 3:</u></p>			
<p>Maintain situational awareness through communication with regional, local, and state partners.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with all pertinent State and Federal response partners is ongoing through daily conference calls, meetings, briefings, etc. to ensure up-to-date situational awareness, and to inform response actions, and decisions. • Case tracking and rumor control efforts are constantly ongoing as numerous fictitious rumors have circulated about cases in and around the City, which have been unfounded. • Reaching out to state on a number of unanswered questions, including FOIA requests, guidance on restaurant protocol for take-out or delivery service, Census 2020 timeline changes, and federal support for impacts. • Daily updates will be issued to all City departments and Council to keep them informed. 			
<p><u>Objective 4:</u></p>			
<p>Develop and implement policies to promote economic stability for the duration of the event.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting local restaurants through a listing on our webpage of their phone numbers/webpage for citizens to order delivery or take out from them. 			
<p><u>Objective 5:</u></p>			
<p>Maintain operational readiness through departmental response and continuity of operations planning for the duration of the event.</p>			

Incident Briefing: 1	1. Incident Name: COVID-19	2. Date/Prepared 3/13/2020	3. Time Prepared 1700
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The City’s Emergency Operations Plan is the current playbook for this emergency, and a declaration of local emergency has been prepared to enact. This is an extremely fluid emergency, and therefore our planning and response is being prepared to match with considerable flexibility. • The City’s Intranet page for Emergency Management is being updated to act as a virtual EOC if needed in concert with conference call and screen sharing capabilities provided through IT. • All departments have initiated a continuity of operations plan (COOP) planning process for their own operations, including a plan for both 15% and 30% reduction in workforce due to quarantine, social distancing requirements, or sickness. • The Public Safety Answer Point (PSAP) or (911 center) has initiated screening of all calls for service in relation to COVID-19s screening criteria. This was developed in concert with VDH guidelines and with the approval of our operational medical director (OMD) to limit exposure to First responders. • A project code for use across the City’s financial system is being created to track all expenses related to the response, and allow for possible reimbursement of response costs through FEMA, if made available. • Current City Human Resource policies have been reviewed for modification as necessary. This includes flex schedule, telework, travel, personal leave, and workman’s comp policies, etc. • IT solutions to support expanded telework, possible social distancing policies, etc. are being rolled out and/or explored as necessary. • Cross training of employees is underway to ensure continuity of operations. 			
<p><u>Objective 6:</u> Support public social distancing policies by maintaining public utility services to all citizens for the duration of the event.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virginia American Water Company (VAWCO) has announced that water connection service disruption for non-payment has been halted for the duration of the event. • VAWCO has announced that water is being restored to customers who had theirs turned off recently due to non-payment. • Dominion Power is also suspending power shutoffs due to non-payment during the event. • Comcast is offering free Wi-Fi to customers who need it for tele-workers etc. 			
<p><u>Objective 7:</u> Maintain regulatory compliance with all applicable laws and regulations during the duration of the event.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a goal for Council to set tax rate by May 1st to allow the treasurer to get out notices on time. 			
<p>Outside Partner Coordination:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hopewell Public Schools will be closed for two weeks effective Monday March 16, 2020. A feeding program will be implemented to support students who need it. Those details will be announced Monday. • Coordination with John Randolph Medical Center has been initiated. Steps they have implemented in concert with VDH and CDC guidelines include but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Limiting access to the hospital to one entrance (ER). b. Screening every person who enters the hospital for COVID-19 criteria. c. Quarantine of suspected cases until ruled out. d. Limiting visitors to one per patient. e. Immediate notification to both the health department and City of any positive cases at the 			

Incident Briefing: 1	1. Incident Name: COVID-19	2. Date/Prepared 3/13/2020	3. Time Prepared 1700
<p style="text-align: center;">hospital.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with the owners of both international shipping ports in Hopewell, the State Emergency Operations Center and the Coast Guard is ongoing to ensure that sailors from countries of community spread will not be allowed to disembark and enter the City. 			
7. Prepared by: Name: B. Ruppert. _____ Position/Title: Emergency Management Signature: _____			
ICS 201, Page 2		Date/Time: March 13, 2020, 1700 _____	

HOPEWELL CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Hopewell City Public Schools
School Board Meeting
March 12, 2020
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PREPARATIONS

1. **Webinar with VDOE Friday 3/6/20-encouraged to focus efforts on prevention efforts and developing a plan for continuity of instruction if/when need arises for a longer term school closure. Referred all collaboration and decision making to the local health department officials.**
2. **SBO Planning Meeting Tuesday 3/10/20-coordinated increased staffing and oversight of custodial services/cleaning of all common surfaces, exploring options for distance learning and facilitating educational sessions for all students via school nurses regarding prevention effort best practices.**
3. **Local Crater Planning District Health Department Briefing in Petersburg Virginia on Wednesday, 3/11/20. Informed premature to consider long-term school closure, and made aware of regional emergency planning efforts and process. Continued focus on prevention and planning emphasized. Planning based upon a community spread” standard of action.**
4. **Emergency planning meeting of HCPS Leadership Team to explore following areas:**
 - *Field Trips & Staff PD**
 - *Instructional Planning in Event of Closure**
 - *Student Access to Food Service in Event of Closure**
 - *Communication with all Stakeholders**
 - *Handling Sick Students and Staff**
 - *Facilities Cleaning**
 - *School and Event Changes/Postponements**
 - *Testing Implications**

5. Proposed Actions To Date:

***Field Trips & Staff PD:**

RESTRICTED TO RICHMOND AREA ONLY FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE

***Instructional Planning in event of Closure**

HCPS WILL CLOSE MONDAY 3/16/20 FOR A TEACHER WORK DAY TO PLAN BY DEPARTMENT AND/OR GRADE LEVEL FOR A MINIMUM OF 2 WEEKS OF INSTRUCTION AT HOME **UPDATED 3/13**

***Student Access to Food Service in Event of Closure**

HCPS IS DEVELOPING AN EXPANDED ROUTE FOR THE BLUE DEVIL BUS MEALS PROGRAM AS WELL AS SCHOOL BASED FOOD PICK UP POINTS, BEGINNING WITH THE TWD ON 3/16/20.

***Communication with all Stakeholders**

HCPS HAS COMMITTED TO DAILY COMMUNICATION UPDATES TO BOTH STAFF AND STUDENT FAMILIES EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

***Handling Sick Students and Staff**

ANYONE IN THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY WHO IS SICK WILL BE ASKED TO STAY HOME. PROPER NOTIFICATION PROTOCOLS TO HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL BE FOLLOWED.

***Facilities Cleaning**

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, INCREASED DAILY CLEANING OF ALL COMMON SURFACES IN SCHOOLS AND OFFICES HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED. ADDITIONAL SUPERVISION AND CHECKLISTS HAVE BEEN PUT IN PLACE.

***School and Event Changes/Postponements**

ALL LARGE GROUP EVENTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED FOR POSTPONEMENT IMMEDIATELY. VIRTUAL OPPORTUNITIES BEING EXPLORED.

***Testing Implications**

HCPS WILL FOLLOW CURRENT GUIDELINES FOR ADJUSTING TESTING WINDOWS IN THE EVENT NECESSARY DUE TO THIS EMERGENCY.

6. **Conference call with Region One Superintendents –Comparison of Actions by District Provided in separate Document**
7. **Conference call scheduled with James Lane, State Superintendent of Instruction at 5pm today. New guidelines from CDC specific to school closures coming tonight.**
8. **Governor’s Press Conference Today-state of emergency in Virginia declared. Dr. Lane will be given authority to waive any appropriate regulations until further notice.**
9. **3/13 UPDATE: Decision to close from 3/16-3/27 and re-evaluation at that time for potential of extending closure. Ball games delayed until 3/30 per VHSL. Practices while school closed will not be permitted. TWD moved to Tuesday 3/17 to allow for 3/16 to be used for deep cleaning of all facilities and buses.**

HCPS MEAL SCHEDULE

HCPS WILL PROVIDE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY TO STUDENTS. MEALS WILL BE PROVIDED TO ALL CHILDREN WITHOUT CHARGE AND ARE THE SAME FOR ALL CHILDREN REGARDLESS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, AGE OR DISABILITY, AND THERE WILL BE NO DISCRIMINATION IN THE COURSE OF THE MEAL SERVICE. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE SERVED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

DUPONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REAR BUS LOOP
DRIVE-THRU SERVICE
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

HOPEWELL DEPT. OF PARKS AND REC
11:30 AM - 11:50 AM

CAVALIER SQUARE SHOPPING CENTER
12:00 PM - 12:20 PM

PIPER SQUARE HOUSING AUTHORITY
12:30 PM - 12:50 PM

DAVISVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
1:00 PM - 1:20 PM

THOMAS ROLFE COURT HOUSING AUTHORITY
1:30 PM - 1:50 PM



CITY OF HOPEWELL TREASURER'S OFFICE



CITY OF HOPEWELL HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT



TO: HRHA staff; Board of Commissioners

From: Chief Executive Officer

March 16, 2020

Dear HRHA,

In response to the growing concerns about the COVID-19 virus, HRHA will implement the following practices:

All congregate meetings are cancelled. We will use the conferencing capacity of our phone system to communicate in a group setting, as needed. We will actively use and promote Social Distancing by attempting to stay six feet from another person. We are monitoring the Center for Disease Control website and announcements as well as any local announcements and will respond accordingly.

If you are sick – stay home. Advise your supervisor as soon as possible.

Staff Accommodations

We will reduce contact with residents. However, we will increase our responsiveness to the potential increase in interim recertifications.

Public Housing and HRHA Administration:

1. New PH Community Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:30-4:00pm by appointment only until further notice. Staff will report to work at normal time but will only see customers during the timeframe noted.
2. Admin Building Hours: 8:30-5:00 pm.
3. Tuesday and Thursday all offices are closed to the public.
4. Appointments will be scheduled by the Admin for each Department.
5. Each staff member will receive masks and gloves that are to be used when meeting with residents/participants.
6. Each PH Community Office will be issued large brown envelopes and boxes.
7. Customers providing paperwork to our staff will place the paper work in the envelope, write their name and unit address of the envelope, and seal it. They will drop their envelope in the designated box. Paper work in those envelopes will be reviewed the next day to give potential viruses on the paper work time die off.
8. Each Maintenance staff member will be provided mask and gloves. When responding to a work order Maintenance will proceed as follows: Ask the question, Is anyone in the household experience flu-like symptoms? If the answer is no, schedule and complete the work order. If the answer is yes, reschedule the work order, if possible. Work orders that cannot be deferred will be reviewed by the COO who will decide the action to take.
9. Each Manager will prepare the appropriate notice for the exterior office doors.

Housing Choice Voucher Program:

1. In addition to the above, HCVP will do the following:
 - a. HQS inspections. – call the participant the day before to confirm they will be available for inspections. Ask if anyone in the household has any flu-like symptoms. If the answer is no, conduct the inspection. If the answer is yes, reschedule the inspection and note reason for reschedule.

- b. Make use of the large conference room for necessary participant meetings. Provide for the appropriate spacing. Area should be wiped down with Lysol after each meeting.

Resident and Participants

HRHA will implement the following modifications to our regular enforcement process. The dates below are subject to extension based on COVID-19 virus updates.

Housing Choice Voucher Program:

1. Will not terminate vouchers thru April 30, 2020.
2. Vouchers scheduled to be terminated will be extended to April 30, 2020.
3. Will provide a search extension for persons with vouchers to April 30, 2020.

Public Housing program:

1. Suspend evictions scheduled to occur between now and April 30, 2020.
2. Currently filed Unlawful Detainers will be continued in General District Court until after April 30, 2020.
3. Any new Unlawful Detainer filed will have a court date of after April 30, 2020.

Note: Appointments will help us keep track of who each staff member is interacting with at work. In the unfortunate event a staff member catches COVID, the appointment information will be valuable on determining the source.



COMCAST ANNOUNCES COMPREHENSIVE COVID-19 RESPONSE TO HELP KEEP AMERICANS CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET

Company Opens Xfinity WiFi Network Nationally for Free, Offers Unlimited Data for Free, Confirms Its Commitment to Connecting Low-Income Families

PHILADELPHIA – March 13, 2020 – On the heels of offering new, low-income Internet Essentials customers two months of free internet and raising the speed of that program’s service to 25/3 Mbps, Comcast today announced additional steps to help ensure people stay connected to the internet as more schools suspend classes and companies encourage employees to work from home due to the Coronavirus.

“During this extraordinary time, it is vital that as many Americans as possible stay connected to the internet – for education, work, and personal health reasons,” said Dave Watson, Comcast Cable Chief Executive Officer. “Our employees also live and work in virtually every community we serve, and we all share the same belief that it’s our Company’s responsibility to step up and help out.”

Comcast is taking steps to implement the following new policies for the next 60 days, and other important initiatives:

- **Xfinity WiFi Free For Everyone:** Xfinity WiFi hotspots across the country will be available to anyone who needs them for free – including non-Xfinity Internet subscribers. For a map of Xfinity WiFi hotspots, visit www.xfinity.com/wifi. Once at a hotspot, consumers should select the “xfinitywifi” network name in the list of available hotspots, and then launch a browser.
- **Pausing Our Data Plan:** With so many people working and educating from home, we want our customers to access the internet without thinking about data plans. While the vast majority of our customers do not come close to using 1TB of data in a month, we are pausing our data plans for 60 days giving all customers Unlimited data for no additional charge.
- **No Disconnects or Late Fees:** We will not disconnect a customer’s internet service or assess late fees if they contact us and let us know that they can’t pay their bills during this period. Our care teams will be available to offer flexible payment options and can help find other solutions.
- **Internet Essentials Free to New Customers:** As announced yesterday, it’s even easier for low-income families who live in a Comcast service area to sign-up for Internet Essentials, the nation’s largest and most comprehensive broadband adoption program. New customers will receive 60 days of complimentary Internet Essentials service, which is normally available to all qualified low-income households for \$9.95/month. Additionally, for all new and existing Internet Essentials customers, the speed of the program’s Internet service was increased to 25 Mbps downstream and 3 Mbps upstream. That increase will go into effect for no additional fee and it will become the new base speed for the program going forward.
- **News, Information and Educational Content on X1 and Flex:** For those with school-age students at home, we’ve created new educational collections for all grade levels in partnership with Common Sense Media. Just say “education” into your X1 or Flex voice remote. To help keep customers informed, we also have created a collection of the most current news and information on Coronavirus. Just say “Coronavirus” into your X1 or Flex voice remote.

- **24x7 Network Monitoring:** Underpinning all of these efforts, Comcast's technology and engineering teams will continue to work tirelessly to support our network operations. We engineer our network capacity to handle spikes and shifts in usage patterns, and continuously test, monitor and enhance our systems and network to ensure they are ready to support customer usage. Our engineers and technicians staff our network operations centers 24/7 to ensure network performance and reliability. We are monitoring network usage and watching the load on the network both nationally and locally, and to date it is performing well.

For more information and updates from Comcast related to Coronavirus, visit:

<http://www.comcastcorporation.com/COVID-19/>

About Comcast

Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA) is a global media and technology company with three primary businesses: Comcast Cable, NBCUniversal, and Sky. Comcast Cable is one of the United States' largest high-speed internet, video, and phone providers to residential customers under the Xfinity brand, and also provides these services to businesses. It also provides wireless and security and automation services to residential customers under the Xfinity brand. NBCUniversal is global and operates news, entertainment and sports cable networks, the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks, television production operations, television station groups, Universal Pictures, and Universal Parks and Resorts. Sky is one of Europe's leading media and entertainment companies, connecting customers to a broad range of video content through its pay television services. It also provides communications services, including residential high-speed internet, phone, and wireless services. Sky operates the Sky News broadcast network and sports and entertainment networks, produces original content, and has exclusive content rights. Visit www.comcastcorporation.com for more information.

###

[Skip Navigation](#)

Coronavirus Update

Here at Dominion Energy, the health and well-being of our customers and employees is our top priority. We are closely monitoring the global outbreak of coronavirus, and we're working to safeguard the health of our communities.

Serving you is Dominion Energy's top priority. We are a 24/7 business, and always will be — even in times of uncertainty such as these. Here are some things we want you to know about how we are supporting our customers during the pandemic.

We will not shut off your power for nonpayment.

People rely on us to meet critical needs, and they should not have to worry about losing service during this critical time. We have suspended all service disconnections as individuals, families, businesses and communities pull together to meet our collective needs. We know the communities we serve rely on us to provide an essential service. We remain committed to providing reliable energy service 24-7.

We are reconnecting residential customers whose services were shut off.

If your service was previously shut off for nonpayment, please [contact us](#) and we will work with you to restore your service.

We are here to help.

For everyone's safety, we ask customers who pay bills in person to choose one of the other options we provide, including [online bill payment](#); payment by mail; [credit card or debit card payment](#); and [automatic bank draft](#). We encourage you to use our online digital tools and automated phone option for routine self-service and 24/7 account access, as call wait times may be longer than usual.

If you are facing financial difficulties, please [contact us](#). You may be eligible for [short-term payment extensions and long-term payment assistance](#). We also provide tips on [how to lower your bill](#).

For those customers who face severe financial strain, we offer [energy assistance](#).

We will continue responding to emergencies.

Our employees are still hard at work. If you lose service or have an emergency, you can report it to us [online via our Outage Center page](#) or by [contacting us](#) at any time. For updates and other important information, you also can follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

We are committing \$1 million to coronavirus relief efforts.

The funds will support national organizations, such as the American Red Cross, as well as various local organizations. Please view our [latest press release about our commitment to coronavirus relief efforts](#).

We are monitoring the situation carefully.

As circumstances surrounding the pandemic change, we are evaluating the measures we have put in place and carefully weighing further steps. We are coordinating our response with federal, state, and local officials and following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and other agencies.

Additionally, to protect the communities we serve, we are asking our employees to take steps to prevent the spread of coronavirus by:

- limiting travel,
- working from home where possible,
- restricting visitors to company offices, and
- requiring employees stay home for 14 days if they have recently visited a country subject to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention travel advisory.

For employees who regularly interact with customers, we're encouraging alternate ways of doing business and remote communication, where possible.

We are all in this together.

At our company, we have a core value we call One Dominion Energy — our term for teamwork. That spirit of cooperation and mutual support extends to the communities where we operate. If you have an energy-related problem, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#). Dominion Energy is proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our customers and communities as we all work to overcome our common challenge.

[Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website](#) for additional information about COVID-19.

Hygiene practices that help prevent the spread of viruses, include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

[Visite una versión en español de esta página.](#)

Copyright © 2017 Dominion Energy, Inc.



March 13, 2020

At Virginia American Water, the health and safety of our customers, communities and employees is our top priority. We provide an essential service that is critically important and much like many other companies in the U.S., and across the globe, Virginia American Water has established coronavirus preparedness plans.

To minimize the risk of exposure to the coronavirus (COVID-19), we have initiated our business continuity plans to help provide additional stability to our operations that include water/wastewater services to your homes and businesses.

Virginia American Water continues to monitor situational updates provided by the Centers for Disease Control, World Health Organization and Johns Hopkins University as well as other state and federal organizations. We are continuously evaluating the situation and latest developments to determine how we can adopt and amend measures, as necessary, to support our customers and communities we serve and our employees.

It is important for you to know that Virginia American Water's drinking water treatment barriers provide protection that includes filtration and disinfection of our surface water supplies (e.g., those from lakes, reservoirs, or rivers) and disinfection of our ground water sources (e.g., underground wells). These treatments are effective in removing and/or inactivating viruses. **Our water meets all current federal and state drinking water requirements.**

Virginia American Water purchases treated water from Fairfax Water for distribution in our Alexandria and Prince William (Dale City) districts. We are working closely with Fairfax Water in that utility's efforts to ensure continuity of operations.

In an effort to keep our customers safe during the coronavirus pandemic, Virginia American Water will be placing a moratorium and discontinuing service shut offs at this time. We will continue to evaluate this moratorium as more information becomes available. Additionally, Virginia American Water will begin the restoration of service to previously shut-off customers. The restoration may take some time, but we will work as quickly and safely as possible. If a customer has had their service turned off prior to March 12, 2020, we will restart their service.

Virginia American Water has been focused on two high priorities as the spread of the coronavirus as evolved - the health and safety of our employees and the health and safety of our customers. As such, **Virginia American Water will also be suspending all non-essential field appointments and will limit the amount and nature of contact with customers during all emergency field appointments.**

We will continue to communicate with you if and when there is new information. As always, thank you for your trust in Virginia American Water as we continue to provide you with safe, clean, reliable water and wastewater services.

For additional information about the coronavirus and drinking water and wastewater please visit:

- [Environmental Protection Agency - Americans can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual](#)
- [World Health Organization - Water treatment practices effective against COVID-19, WHO says](#)

Visitation Policy

During respiratory illness season

To reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses, we are taking the following precautions to protect our patients and you:



- **Patients** are limited to one adult visitor (age 16+) during daylight hours
- **Laboring mothers** are allowed one adult (age 16+) visitor for the duration her labor, day or night
- **Pediatric patients** will be allowed one adult visitor during the day and one legal guardian overnight (this does not include NICU).



Visitors under 16 are restricted.



Hospital staff will pre-screen all visitors (using standard pre-screening questions) and may require visitors to wear masks. All visitors will be required to wear an identifying sticker indicating they have been screened.



Individuals with respiratory symptoms or other risk factors for COVID-19, such as travel or exposure, will be asked to refrain from visiting.



Visitors will be asked to refrain from visiting and utilize alternative methods of communication with patients who are under observation or test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances.

Thank you for your help in maintaining a safe environment for our patients.



City of Hopewell
Office of Intergovernmental
and Public Affairs
300 North Main Street
Hopewell, VA 23860

MEDIA RELEASE

For Further Information Contact: **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
Herbert H. Bragg (804) 541-2270 **Monday, March 16, 2020**
Director, Intergovernmental & Public Affairs
hbragg@hopewellva.gov
Release Number: 3/16/20-DIPA-001

CITY OF HOPEWELL GOVERNMENT UPDATE REGARDING CORONAVIRUS AND CITY CLOSURES

HOPEWELL, VA. UPDATE – March 16, 2020

Please be advised City of Hopewell officials are continuing to monitor and respond to the coronavirus outbreak. In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, the city is enhancing its social distancing measures. The following actions are effective immediately, and will remain in effect at least through Sunday, March 29.

- All city offices, facilities and buildings are closed to the public. This includes city hall, Treasurer's Office, Commissioner of the Revenue's Office, Voter Registrar's Office, Office on Youth and Community Center.
- City employees are to continue to report to work as usual; however, telework, per the City's Policy is in effect.
- Citizens can use the Treasurer's drop box behind City Hall for payments.
- All city sponsored events, programs, classes and activities scheduled during this time are canceled.
- Appomattox Regional Library System (ARLS) is closed all of the their library locations until April 6, 2020 (pending Board approval).
- Parks and playgrounds remain open at this time.
- Department of Development building inspections will continue based on availability, but property maintenance inspections will only occur where there is an immediate life/safety issue.
- The Department of Social Services will have limited access during this time, and clients should call 541-2330 for more information.
- CVWMA trash and recycling collections will continue to take place as scheduled.

City officials will re-evaluate these actions based on the status of the outbreak and guidance from the Virginia Department of Health before reopening facilities to the public.

During the closure, residents are encouraged to use online resources for services and payments available at www.hopewellva.gov

###