

Community Engagement and Public Information Department

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY INFORMATION
County Declares Local Emergency



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 3/13/2020

TIME: 12:00 p.m.

Contact: Quinton Sheppard, Public Information and Marketing Coordinator

Phone: 804-693-5730

Email: qsheppard@gloucesterva.info

As of noon today, Gloucester County Administrator Brent Fedors announced that he has issued a declaration of local emergency for Gloucester County. The declaration was issued as a precautionary security measure, which allows for the full powers of government to deal effectively with emergencies or hazardous weather conditions.

This is partially in response to the Statewide Declaration of Emergency that was declared Thursday, March 12th by Governor Ralph Northam in response to the Pandemic COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

County officials are working with the Virginia Department of Health and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and will continue monitoring and preparing for this evolving situation. Local efforts (as described herein) are prioritizing the safety and security of all citizens with additional focus on the citizens who are most at-risk.

Public access to all Gloucester County offices and buildings is temporarily suspended on Monday, March 16th and Tuesday, March 17th to facilitate additional planning and preparedness efforts. Staff will report as usual.

The Gloucester County Courthouse, Circuit Court and the Circuit Court Clerk's Office will be open and hear cases as scheduled.

The Gloucester County Board of Supervisors Joint Work Session with the School Board, scheduled for Tuesday, March 17th, as well as the Town Hall Budget Meeting Scheduled for Wednesday, March 18th are postponed, to be rescheduled.

All Gloucester County Public Schools will be closed for no less than two weeks, starting Monday, March 16th through March 27th, in response to the Governor's recent executive order as such.

All Gloucester County Parks, Recreation and Tourism Programs are suspended until further notice, effective Saturday, March 14th, including Tyndall's Point Park History Day. County Parks will remain open to the public for passive recreation. A decision regarding the Daffodil Festival, scheduled for April 4th and 5th, will be made in the coming week.

The Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event and Open House for Parks, Recreation and Tourism scheduled for Sunday, March 15th, as well as the Daffodil Festival Print Unveiling scheduled for Saturday, March 14th at Arts on Main, have been cancelled.

Bay Aging has closed all senior centers and adult daybreak centers in Gloucester County, until further notice.

For more information on the virus, as well as preventative measures for residents and businesses, go to vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus. For local updates, continue to monitor the county's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/gloucesterva/>; visit the county's website at www.gloucesterva.info; or contact Gloucester County's Emergency Management Department at 804-693-1390.

End of Announcement