

Borough of Freehold

COVID-19 Borough Status

March 17, 2020

Out of the abundance of caution and to help curtail the possibility of community spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Borough of Freehold will be implementing the following administrative procedures effective Monday, March 16 and continuing until further notice.

STAY INFORMED

Visit the borough home page at: www.freeholdboroughnj.gov

Find borough contact information here: www.freeholdboroughnj.gov/phone_dir.html

Sign up for phone alerts here: <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085611501/login>

Sign up for email alerts here: www.freeholdboroughnj.gov/resident-communications.html

Like the Borough Facebook Page here: <https://www.facebook.com/Borough-of-Freehold-107834230722413/>

MUNICIPAL OFFICES & FACILITIES

Borough Hall -

- Physical public access to all municipal offices (including Borough Hall, Police Headquarters Back Office, Municipal Court, Public Works Office, Fire Department and Freehold Public Library) is suspended until further notice.
- The public foyer of borough hall will be open to the public weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for access to a drop box for tax and water/sewer payments, filing of completed permits and other correspondence. No loitering shall occur in or around the foyer.
- All offices are open and Municipal Staff will be available during this time to answer questions and concerns from the public **via telephone and email**, however no in-office visitation will be permitted for the duration without a scheduled appointment.
- All residents and property owners are encouraged to utilize our online payment options for taxes and water/sewer bills at <https://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=1316>.

Police Department

- The Freehold Police Department continues on duty as always, 24 hours a day seven days per week.
- All non-emergency contact with the police department should be initiated by phone call to (732) 462-1233

- True emergencies should be reported to 9-1-1.
- Email inquiries can be made to Chief Craig Dispenza at dispenzac@freeholdpolice.org
- If your business requires that you visit the police station at 36 Jackson Street, Freehold, you will be subject to screening and escorted to a secure area. Please call in advance to make an appointment to be seen.

Municipal Court

- The Freehold Municipal Court sessions have been suspended by Chief Justice Stuart Rabner until March 27th.
- New court dates will be issued.
- Fines and payments for motor vehicle violations can be made on line at www.njmcdirect.com
- For all other violations, a drop box has been established at the court offices for payments by check or money order – NO CASH Will be accepted. Payments can also be mailed to the court.
- For more information, please call 732 462-2444.

Fire Department –

- The Freehold Fire Department remains on duty 24/7.
- For Fire Emergencies, please call 9-1-1.
- Fire Headquarters is NOT open to the general public.

Freehold Emergency Medical Service (EMS) –

- Freehold EMS remains on duty 24/7
- For medical emergencies call 9-1-1

Code Enforcement, Building Department & Fire Prevention Bureau –

- Permit application drop off and pick up will be available by appointment only. Permit applications are available online at <http://www.freeholdboroughnj.gov/forms/Forms.html> and can be dropped off in the Drop Box. Please call 732 462-4903 to arrange an appointment.
- Telephone screening for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to all appointments and inspections will be occurring.
- The Borough will be erring on the side of caution and the inspectors will be using discretion when entering dwellings and interacting with individuals. Only essential contractors, homeowners, or authorized representatives necessary for the completion of any inspection shall be on site during such inspection in an effort to limit unnecessary contact.
- All non-essential inspections by the Building Department and Fire Prevention Bureau are suspended through March 29.
- Any Residential Smoke, Carbon Monoxide, CCO and Fire Extinguisher inspections for resale and rental of residential dwellings for Closings scheduled before April 2 will occur, however; only one realtor, homeowner, or authorized representative shall be on site during such inspection in an effort to limit unnecessary contact.

Department of Public Works –

- Physical public access to the Public Works Office and Garage will be suspended through at least Sunday, March 29.
- The recycling center hours will remain in effect as scheduled.
- All other DPW operations such as trash and recycling pick up will remain in effect as well

Recreation –

- All Recreation facilities are closed until March 29th.
- All organized sanctioned recreation activities such as basketball, baseball, softball, soccer is suspended through March 29.

Freehold Public Library

- The Freehold Public Library will be closed until further notice.
- You may still return items in the book drop located at rear of the Library.
- There will be no fines on late items during this time.
- Cardholders may access downloadable ebooks, audio and video/movies via our website www.freeholdpubliclibrary.org.
- Telephone the library at 732-462-5135 Monday through Friday, 9am – 5pm if you need a library card, need help with library card/PIN issues or have reference questions.
- Keep in touch/engaged via the library's Facebook Page, as well as Instagram and Twitter.
- Email kmulholland@freeholdpubliclibrary.org with questions any time.

Public Meetings

- All non-essential Board and Committee meetings—including Planning Board, Human Relations Committee, Shade Tree Commission, Recreation Commission and Lake Topanemus Commission are cancelled through March 31st at which time the situation will be reevaluated.
- Due to the spread of the Coronavirus and to protect our residents and employees, the Borough is requesting that attendance at essential, scheduled meetings be limited to those with an urgent need to attend. Accordingly, no large presentations or proclamations will be given until this situation is further clarified.
- Please employ social distancing if you plan on attending borough council meetings. The council chamber and public spaces in borough hall will be disinfected before and after meetings.

If your issue is urgent, please email Borough Administrator Steve Gallo at Sgallo@freeholdboro.org for assistance or call 732 462-4200.