



COVID-19 and Our Community – An Update from the Corporation of Harpers Ferry

A Supplement to the Upcoming March/April 2020 Community Newsletter

Disclaimer This continues to be a rapidly-evolving situation. Every effort is being made to present accurate, up-to-date information, however we encourage everyone to stay informed by utilizing a variety of resources, including those referenced and linked below.



Town Business:

Staff: Town Hall staff are currently working remotely to help prevent the spread of the virus. Mail sent to Town Hall as well as any correspondence or payments dropped off in the secured collection box at Town Hall are both being retrieved regularly, and staff are checking their office voicemail on a daily basis as well.

Meetings: Until further notice, all Town meetings are being held remotely, either via teleconference or Zoom. In order to comply with the Open Meetings Act, all meetings will be livestreamed to the Town's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/harpersferry. Agendas for all upcoming meetings are being posted on the official Town bulletin board – next to the main entrance to Town Hall, as well as on the Town's website, www.harpersferrywv.us.

Harpers Ferry Water Works and the Harpers Ferry-Bolivar PSD: Staff are working hard to ensure that water/sewer service continues reliably and safely. Please note – for the safety of our community and our staff, ALL customers' water/sewer bills for the upcoming month will be estimated. Please be patient with us during this unprecedented time, and stay tuned for further updates regarding April's bills.

Parking Closures: There is currently no public parking available in Harpers Ferry. The Harpers Ferry Police Department is enforcing a temporary but strict no-parking policy, the exception being only for Town residents with a valid parking permit.

Businesses in Harpers Ferry: Pursuant to Town Ordinance 735.20, B&O and Room Occupancy taxes for the quarter of January 2020-March 2020 are due by April 30th, however due to the circumstances the Town will be requiring the taxpayer's **forms only** to be submitted on time. Should the taxpayer submit their tax forms on time but choose to pay at a later date, late fees and penalties will **not** be imposed. The Town does offer a Deferred Payment Agreement for businesses in good standing, please contact the Town Clerk at clerk@harpersferrywv.us for more details. Forms can be found on the [Town website](http://www.harpersferrywv.us) or by contacting the Town Clerk and may be submitted electronically or via US mail.

Health and Well-Being:

Medical Care: If you are seeking non-emergency medical care, WVU Medicine is offering Virtual Urgent Care Visits for patients physically located in the state of West Virginia. Established patients may also schedule a Virtual Outpatient Visit, subject to current location. WVU Medicine is also waiving all "personal pay fees" for this service through May 15. Please visit www.wvumedicine.org/online-appointment-primary-care-physician for more details.

If you wish to be tested for Coronavirus, there are 3 sites in Martinsburg and 1 in Ranson that may fulfill a physician's order for a COVID-19 test. You are encouraged to contact your primary care physician first, and then contact the individual facility prior to arriving for a test. If you are experiencing symptoms associated with COVID-19 you **must** call ahead. The 4 sites are as follows: *WVU Medicine (Ranson)* – 304-598-6000 option 4 (8a-4p, Mon-Fri); *Berkeley Medical Center (Martinsburg)* – 304-598-6000 option 4 (10a-4p, Mon-Sun); *MedExpress Urgent Care (Martinsburg)* – 204-264-9730 (8a-8p, Mon-Sun); *Shenandoah Community Health Center (Martinsburg)* *Must be an established patient* - 304-263-4999 (7:30a-4p, Mon-Fri)

Pharmacies: Most pharmacies remain operational at this time, although many with modified hours – please call ahead. If you are considered at high-risk or have difficulty leaving home at this time, Jefferson Pharmacy, at 201 S. Preston St. Ranson, WV 25438 offers free delivery to Jefferson and Berkeley County residents – visit www.jeffersonpharmacy.net or call 304-725-6533 for details.

Mental Health/Emotional Support: Optum, part of UnitedHealth, is now operating an Emotional Support Help Line which is available to anyone who may be experiencing anxiety or stress following the recent developments around COVID-19. Call 866-342-6892 for free, 24/7 service. [\[Source\]](#) Also available to residents of WV is HELP4WV – call or text 844-435-7498 to speak with someone, 24/7. [\[Source\]](#)

SCAM ALERT: It is a sad reality that when we are hit with hard times there is often someone looking to take advantage of the situation. Please use constant vigilance and be aware that there is currently no such thing as an "at-home" Coronavirus test, there is no vaccine for the virus at this time, and the IRS is not contacting anyone requesting information to help them receive their COVID-19 stimulus check faster. [\[Source 1\]](#), [\[Source 2\]](#)



Important Announcements and Resources:

- Need internet access? The Bolivar-Harpers Ferry Public Library wants to help – library staff have made wifi available for public use during this difficult time. The network name is 2301; no password is required. The library has also set out picnic tables (6 ft. apart) for patrons in their main parking lot. [\[Source\]](#)

- Primary elections are being held June 9, 2020. Residents can expect to receive an absentee ballot via US mail, if they have not already. [\[Source\]](#)

- For information regarding the Jefferson County School system, including the Child Nutrition Plan for providing student meals during this time, please visit jeff.ss18.sharpschool.com.

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov

- World Health Organization: www.who.int

- Small Business Resources: www.sba.gov

- The deadline for filing and paying Federal income tax returns is now July 15, 2020. [\[Source\]](#)

- The deadline for filing and paying State income tax returns is now July 15, 2020. [\[Source\]](#)

- The deadline for filing Harpers Ferry B&O and Room Occupancy taxes has not changed, however payment is **not required at this time** and interest/penalties will be waived until



further notice. Please submit forms for January-March 2020 by deadline 4/30.

- For Jefferson County-specific updates and resources, visit <https://coronavirus-response-jefferson-county-wv-jcwgis.hub.arcgis.com/>.

- For WV State-specific updates and resources, visit www.coronavirus.wv.gov.

- The Corporation of Harpers Ferry's website has a page dedicated to COVID-19 updates: coronavirus.harpersferrywv.us.

