Community Report

Brevard County
Emergency Operations Center
Community Report # 20-037
April 21, 2020, 7:30 PM

Incident Name: COVID-19
Brevard County EOC Status: Level 1 – Full Activation
State of Florida EOC Status: Level 1 – Full Activation

Current Event Status

Event Overview

- The pandemic currently affects over 185 countries, with more than 2,560,504 cases worldwide, including 820,104 cases in the United States.
- Residents may call 2-1-1 for up-to-date information between 8 AM and 6 PM daily.
- The FDOH COVID-19 call center is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day at 1-866-779-6121, but is experiencing a large volume of calls. Another option is to email COVID-19@flhealth.gov.

Local Considerations

- There are 224 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and 7 deaths in Brevard County.
- Team Rubicon and Brevard County’s Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster have been instrumental in Brevard County’s response to COVID-19 pandemic. These groups along with Emergency Management have received and distributed food to existing and pop-up food pantries as well as supplies to various agencies and facilities.
  - Team Rubicon is an organization with a volunteer base of military veterans and first responders. Its Neighbors Helping Neighbors initiative entails rapid emergency response during disasters and humanitarian crises in the United States and around the world.
  - Brevard County’s VOAD consists of volunteer organizations that assist in response and recovery from disasters. VOAD is composed mostly of faith-based, nonprofit agencies like the Salvation Army, Baptist Disaster Relief, Florida United Methodist Disaster Response and local churches.
- For information on food pantry locations and how to access help, utilize the United Way of Brevard’s COVID-19 Community Resource guide by clicking here. It is recommended that you call ahead to verify availability.
- Brevard County Farmers Market is open Thursdays from 3 PM to 6 PM.
  - The market is operating on a pre-order basis through their individual vendors. Links to each of the vendors can be found at brevardcountyfarmersmarket.
When SNAP/EBT is used, they will double the amount purchased. The amount purchased will be given in the form of orange tokens, and can be used with most all of the vendors. The matching dollars will be given in the form of green tokens and can only be used for fresh produce or plants that produce fruits, veggies, or herbs. There is currently no limit on the match and tokens do not expire.

- Brevard County rated with a “D+” grade for today’s social distancing score from Unacast.
- Health First is offering drive-up testing for first responders; call 321-434-3131 for appointment. Must show identification and credentials.
- Brevard County Parks & Recreation: All playgrounds are closed until further notice. Parks and trails remain open.
- Florida Dept of Health: Now offering free COVID-19 testing for Priority 2: patients in long-term care with symptoms, those 65 or older with symptoms, those with underlying conditions and symptoms, and first responders with symptoms.
- Brevard County Public Schools continues to offer meals for students are free or reduced lunch at 27 food distribution sites. Click for locations.
- (Not COVID-related) North Brevard/Mims area residents should reduce water usage for non-essential activities, such as washing cars and watering grass, until further notice.
- (Not COVID-related) A burn ban is in effect countywide due to the Keetch-Byram Drought Index exceeding 500. All of east central Florida now in moderate drought conditions.
- Space Coast Area Transit has waived fares through April 30. Bus routes are now available between 7 AM and 6 PM.
- Eastern Florida State College:
  o Student Services are available remotely, including virtual one-on-one student meetings that may be necessary. View Student Services guide for details.
  o Also read updated Frequently Asked Questions for important information.
- Supervisor of Elections:
  o Qualifying for judicial candidates ends at noon Friday, April 24. Although Supervisor of Elections offices are closed to the public, qualifying paperwork can be dropped off at the Viera office utilizing the drop box, or call 321-633-2166 for an appointment.
- City of Cape Canaveral:
  o All city services remain available.
  o For updates please visit: https://www.cityofcapecanaveral.org/coronavirus/index.php
- City of Cocoa
  o The City has temporarily suspended water shut-offs for non-payment. Customers needing to discuss their specific situation and payment plan options should call Cocoa Utility Customer Service at 321-433-8400 or e-mail customerservice@cocoafl.org.
  o Additional information: https://www.cocoafl.org/1558/Coronavirus-COVID-19
- City of Cocoa Beach
  o Executive Order 12A eases beach restrictions encouraging social distancing and not congregating in groups greater than five people.
  o Community food drive starts April 22
All special events in the City of Cocoa Beach are canceled until May 31.
Next virtual City Commission meeting scheduled for May 7 at 7 PM
COVID-19 information can be found at:
http://www.cityofcocoabeach.com/698/Coronavirus-COVID-19-Updates

- **Town of Grant-Valkaria:**
  - Town Hall is closed to the general public; essential services will continue; in-person meetings and services are discontinued until further notice
- **Town of Indialantic**
  - Town Hall, police, and fire departments remain closed to the public. Customer service continues by telephone or electronically.
- **City of Indian Harbour Beach:**
  - All beach parking is restricted.
  - Building permit applications can be submitted through e-mail at building@indianharbour.org
  - Business Tax Receipt applications, fire inspections, alarm permits should be submitted electronically to the City Clerk, Sue Frank at sfrank@indianharbour.org
- **Town of Malabar:**
  - Town Hall is closed to the general public. Essential services will continue operating via e-mail and phone calls.
  - For any further information, please call Town Hall at 321-727-7764 or visit www.townofmalabar.org
- **City of Melbourne:**
  - For updates, please visit the dedicated web page:
  https://www.melbourneflorida.org/about/covid-19
- **Town of Melbourne Beach**
  - Town Hall lobby remains closed to the public; all business must be conducted via phone (321) 724-5860 or click here
- **Town of Melbourne Village**
  - The local state of emergency in accordance with Town resolution 2020-02 has been extended until April 24.
  - Town Office is still closed to the general public; for questions email town@Melbournevillage.org, (321) 723-8300 or visit www.melbournevillage.org
- **City of Palm Bay:**
  - City facilities remain closed to the public while City operations continue.
- **Town of Palm Shores**
  - Town Hall is closed to the public and requests for permits and inspections should be called to 321-242-4555 to schedule an appointment.
- **City of Rockledge**
  - Building Department permit pick-up, issuance, and payment is by appointment only. Plan review will continue as normal.
- **City of Satellite Beach:**

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Satellite Beaches are closed to all activities except walking, jogging, biking, fishing, surfing, and swimming, through April 30. No congregating on boardwalks or accesses will be permitted.

- City of West Melbourne
  - City services are available via telephone, (321)727-7700, website, www.westmelbourne.org or email, info@westmelbourne.org

- Patrick Air Force Base
  - Updates can be viewed here

Rumor Control
- Department of Health does not send text messages telling people they need to be tested for COVID-19.
- Stimulus check recipients do not have to confirm acceptance via text message.
- Financial departments do not send text messages for financial assistance.
- The IRS will not call to request any personal or financial information for you to receive an economic impact payment.
- Antibody testing does not signify complete immunity or that there is no longer a need to social distance.

Central Florida Highlights
- The regional testing site at the Orange County Convention Center will administer up to 750 tests per day to individuals with respiratory symptoms or preexisting conditions, regardless of age. It is free of charge and no appointment is necessary.
State/National Highlights

- The Governor’s Executive Committee of the Re-Open Florida Task Force reconvened today. Task Force working groups are made up of the industries in the chart below and grouped by Low, Medium and High Risk. Risk refers to the potential risk by sector of job loss.

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- Florida Department of Education’s Office of Early Learning has prioritized and increased access to child care services for first responders and health care professionals. First responders and health care workers needing help finding a child care provider should contact their local early learning coalition for assistance. Click [here](#) to find a map of Early Learning Providers throughout the state.
Governor DeSantis has announced that public schools will remain closed; distance learning will continue for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program initiative to purchase groceries online with the use of an EBT card will go statewide April 21. For more information, click here

The CDC has recommended the use of cloth face coverings

Executive Order 20-91: Answers to frequently asked questions relating to Governor DeSantis’ Executive Order 20-91 are available here

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services issued new guidance to nursing homes - requiring them to report COVID-19 cases/deaths directly to the CDC and inform residents and their families when cases occur within their facilities.

President Trump announced plans to use the Defense Production Act to help with the production of swabs needed for COVID-19 testing. The President stated that two plants will produce 20 million swabs per month.

The CDC published new forecasts of COVID-19 deaths at national and state levels, drawing from models from Los Alamos National Lab, IHME, and Columbia University based on different ranges of social distancing.

Eighteenth Judicial Circuit Court COVID-19 information can be viewed here

Public Protective Measures
- Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid close contact with sick people, and stay home when sick
- Wear a cloth face covering when in settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain
- Advise sick employees to stay home and allow telework or administrative leave
- Follow respiratory etiquette by coughing/sneezing into your sleeve

Additional COVID-19 Online Resources

Social Media Platforms
- CDC Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CDC/
- CDC Twitter: @CDCemergency and @CDCgov
- FDOH Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/FLDepartmentofHealth/
- FDOH Twitter: @healthyFla

Approval Information
Approved by: Kimberly Prosser Date: April 21, 2020

Stay Informed via Social Media
Brevard County Emergency Management is also providing updates via the following social media accounts:
- Twitter: @BrevardEOC
- Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/BrevardEOC
- Text Brevard EOC to 888-777