

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY

Thomas G. Wegner *Chairman of the Board* Adam N. Payne County Administrator

Press Release

March 24, 2020 - Page 1 of 3

Sheboygan County Government Remains Open with Limited Access

Local governments provide essential services and are exempt from the Governor's recent Mass Gathering and Safer At Home orders. Sheboygan County government buildings are open and employees continue to provide services to the community. However, to protect the safety of our residents, staff and community, county officials ask that you please refrain from visiting county facilities unless it is an urgent matter. "We ask that members of the public please call ahead or schedule appointments. We want to keep the public and our employees all safe, and are actively promoting social distancing." said County Administrator Adam Payne.

For more information on a specific area of responsibility and county department, please see the procedures, visitation restrictions and guidance below:

Sheboygan County Courthouse

- **Courthouse**: The courthouse remains open, but people are urged to call in advance to limit in-person contact. People are still able to file for restraining orders, injunctions and other legal actions.
- **Clerk of Circuit Court:** The Clerk of Circuit Court's Office, which accepts court filings, is open, but staff will assist via phone and direct that payments and filing of documents occur online or by mail. Please call 920-459-3068.
- **Child Support:** Child support hearings will also occur via phone. Other court hearings will continue as needed, but largely via phone or video conferencing. Please call 414-615-2591.
- District Attorney's Office and Victim/Witness: The District Attorney's Office and Victim/Witness Offices are open as well. According to District Attorney Joel Urmanski, "While we are working a bit differently in response to this health crisis, we are still issuing cases, assisting law enforcement, helping victims and witnesses and otherwise working to maintain the safety and security that residents expect," said Urmanski. Please be sure to contact the District Attorney's Office and Victim/Witness Office at 920-459-3040 or email

rather than appearing in person to discuss cases, ask questions and to address what will happen in cases moving forward.

• **Register in Probate:** Register in Probate recommends calling 920-459-3050 with questions or concerns and to mail documents you may have planned on filing in person.

Sheriff's Department

- The Sheriff's Department is operating as normal. The lobby is open but limited to urgent matters. Please call 920-459-3111 before visiting or if you have questions.
- Visitors are currently not permitted at the County Detention Center or Jail.

Health & Human Services

- New clients are asked to call the main HHS number at 920-459-4382, rather than walking in to initiate service. Most services will be conducted over the phone.
- Urgent service that can't be provided over the phone may be provided by appointment (only for individuals not exhibiting coronavirus symptoms).
- The Emergency crisis counseling and safety assessment (Mobile Crisis) remains in operation and in this instance, please call 920-459-3151.
- For information on the coronavirus, please see the County website, Division of Public Health web page at www.SheboyganCounty.com

Rocky Knoll

• The Rocky Knoll Health Care Center is not accepting visitors. Only Rocky Knoll employees and medical personnel will be allowed to enter and exit the facility. Employees are being screened for flu or coronavirus symptoms before being allowed into the facility. If you have questions, or want to drop off something for a loved one or staff, please call 920-893-6441.

Transportation

• The Transportation Department will continue emergency response, construction and maintenance operations. Please call 920-459-3822 if you have questions or to make an appointment.

Sheboygan County Administration Building

In addition, the County has a number of other Departments, including the County Clerk, Finance, Human Resources, Planning and Conservation, Register of Deeds, and Treasurer, all located in the County Administration Building. Again, County Administrator Adam Payne said please be mindful of your safety and others, and only go to the County Administration Building if needed. "Now is not the time for people to be going to Register of Deeds and researching their family tree," Payne said. Payne urged residents to please call ahead or email to see if their question or service can be provided remotely. If not, please make an appointment so service can be provided with the health and well-being of everyone involved. For more information about the County's 19 Departments, or for contact information, please refer to the County website, or contact the County Clerk's office at 920-459-3003.

• Elections: County residents are encouraged to vote absentee, and should contact their town, village or city clerk to request that a ballot be mailed to them. If you have questions, please go to https://myvote.wi.gov/ to determine your municipality, or to request that an absentee ballot be mailed.

Payne said that it is all hands on deck and that all county departments, including Health and Human Services, Emergency Management, Rocky Knoll, Building Services, Human Resources, and the Sheriff's Department are actively engaged with the coronavirus planning, preparations and response. "We are actively working in collaboration with many other public and private organizations." Payne said everyone must be more mindful of taking care of themselves, including frequently washing your hands, and being thoughtful of others. "These are extraordinary times. We all need to work together, practice social distancing, and strive to be extra patient and kind to one-another." Payne said.

Payne urged residents to look to the County website for clear and credible information. "The Sheboygan County Division of Public Health is doing an outstanding job providing important and timely information. I'm very proud of our team and grateful for the community's support," Payne said. You can find these updates posted on the County <u>website</u>, the County's Public Health Facebook page and you can also subscribe to the county's routine COVID19 Email Alerts list <u>at this link</u>.

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For more information, please contact Adam Payne, County Administrator at 920-459-3103.