

MEDIA RELEASE – 03/17/2020 1600 HOURS

CONTACT: MARTHA OBERDORFER, MPH, FPEM
NASSAU COUNTY EOC

E-MAIL: NCEM@NASSAU.SO.COM

FACEBOOK: NASSAUEM



JIS RELEASE #3

The “OneNassau” Joint Information System (JIS) is monitoring the rapidly changing situation in order to provide timely, accurate, unified messaging to our residents. Updates will be provided each afternoon; more frequently only if warranted.

Current Situation in Nassau County:

- The County’s only positive case of Coronavirus remains in isolation; all close contacts of the positive case were instructed on quarantine procedures; go to floridahealthcovid19.gov for all you need to know about COVID-19 in Florida
- Residents who believe they have been a “close contact” to a positive case of Coronavirus should call DOH-Nassau at **904-875-6100** for guidance
- **Local Medical Providers** who are unable to obtain necessary PPE supplies through their normal vendors should contact the NE Florida Regional Healthcare Coalition or DOH-Nassau for assistance.
- Governor DeSantis has issued **Executive Order #20-68** having the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (BPR) enforce the suspension of alcohol sales in **bars, pubs, and nightclubs** for 30 days as of 5 p. m. March 17th, as well as employee health screenings and a 50% occupancy limit in **restaurants**; parties accessing public **beaches** are to limit themselves to groups of 10 and distance themselves from other parties by six feet. *(Full text is available on the www.NassauFL-EM.com website)*
- **Florida’s State University System** has extended remote learning through the end of the spring semester
- **County Schools** are scheduled to reopen March 30th
- **Other private businesses** may remain open as they see fit; social distancing, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette recommendations are still in effect
- **Sheriff’s** deputies are responding to calls for service under normal operations; NCSO fingerprinting services have been cancelled until further notice; although visitors are not allowed in Fire Stations through April 6th, EMT/Paramedics will meet residents needing medical assistance at station doors. *Call 9-1-1 for all public safety and medical emergencies.*
- **Clerk of the Court** will not be performing marriage ceremonies at either courthouse until further notice.
- **County Jail** is being sanitized multiple times per day; all programs, church services, and visitation have been suspended; attorneys and counselors will have access to inmates through glass-shielded rooms; medical care will continue as normal; Judge Daniel ordered weekend inmates postponed until May 22nd

- **Property Appraiser's** office is closed to the public but services are available via phone and e-mail
- **State parks** are open for day-use from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. but all organized events, pavilion rentals, and camping reservations are cancelled for the next 60 days
- **Wildlight's FLOCO Festival and 5K** are being rescheduled for fall.
- **NC-ARES** Amateur Radio General License Course is postponed until April 6th
- **Ocean Highway and Port Authority** March meeting is cancelled
- **Okefenoke REMC** has closed its lobby to the public and is encouraging the use of their website portal, app, or drive-thru to make payments
- Businesses have been asked to complete the **Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO)** impact survey at <https://floridadisaster.biz/>; those experiencing economic injury during the pandemic may use the form on www.FloridaDisasterLoan.org to apply for a short-term, interest free, *Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan* between March 17th and May 8th
- **Nassau P3** (public-private partnership) has compiled information about local resources and social services available to residents during the pandemic response; updates are posted on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/nassaup3/>

Municipalities:

- The City of Fernandina Beach (CoFB) has cancelled all board and commission meetings and all Parks and Recreation-sponsored childcare services, pool facilities, and athletic league events; CoFB parks, beaches, and government offices remain open; however, social-distancing recommendations remain in effect
- CoFB employees are being screened for illness (questionnaire and temperature checks) and have been advised to clean and disinfect work spaces, equipment, and interior/exterior doorknobs daily
- Fernandina Beach Farmer's Market has been postponed
- The 2020 Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival and April 23rd–May 3rd docking of tall ships Nina and Pinta have been cancelled
- April 18th "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" Clean-Up, Recycling, & Hazardous Waste Collection events are being rescheduled for a later date

National & State Public Health Updates:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided updated information and public resources on their webpage www.coronavirus.gov.
- The Florida Department of Health (DOH) *COVID-19 Call Center* is available 24/7 to answer general Coronavirus questions at **866-779-6121** or e-mail at COVID-19@FLHealth.gov; their Florida COVID-19 Data and Surveillance Dashboard is available at <https://fdoh.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/8d0de33f260d444c852a615dc7837c86>

Take everyday precautions to reduce disease transmission:

- If you are at risk or have underlying health conditions, avoid crowds and maintain social distancing practices
- Stay home, away from others whenever ill
- Cough/sneeze into your elbow, sleeve, or a tissue (and throw the used tissue into the trash)
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, or having been in a public place; if soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching common surfaces in public places – door handles, ATM buttons, handrails, etc. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something; avoid touching your face, eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces to remove germs every day (e.g., tables and counters, doorknobs, light switches, steering wheels, keyboards and mice, faucets, remotes, and phones)

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is the “clearing house” for Nassau County’s JIS and posts incident information regularly on the NassauEM Facebook Page and www.NassauFL-EM.com website. If you have questions, please call the EOC’s information line 904-548-0900 or message the EOC staff through the NassauEM Facebook page.

###