

The Village of Northfield

March 30, 2020

Dear Northfielders,

There is no doubt that we will see better days, but they aren't here yet. In fact, as much as I would like to paint a rosy picture, authorities are saying that Illinois' greatest challenge with the spread of the coronavirus still lies ahead. The number of COVID-19 diagnoses in Illinois has risen exponentially over the past three weeks, and authorities predict that the next two weeks will bring the greatest surge yet in diagnosed cases in Illinois.

I urge each one of you to continue sheltering-in-place. Early indications are that social distancing is helping to slow the spread of COVID-19 in Illinois. This is critically important. The coronavirus has proven to be highly contagious, and the only way to stop its transmission is to strictly limit social interaction by you and your family. Every person who ignores the shelter-in-place guidelines threatens not only himself or herself, but also the health and safety of all with whom he or she comes into contact. We all owe an endless debt to the health professionals and first responders who are dealing with this illness at their own peril. Let's not make it any worse by needlessly increasing the number of infected patients. Continue to wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially when you come in from outside or you are about to eat.

Northfield

The Village of Northfield is currently in a good position with regard to provision of basic services. However, our first responders, like those everywhere, are in need of personal protective equipment, including N95 respirator masks and surgical face masks. Although we have sufficient supplies for the time being, that is likely to change very quickly if the number of cases increases locally. If you know of a resource, please call the Village at 847/446-9200.

Our Village parks are open, but please maintain social distancing at all times while visiting them. Do not allow your children to use any of the playground equipment at the parks or grade schools.

The Forest Preserve is open, although the following are cancelled or closed until May 11: all public and permitted events, volunteer activities, public restrooms, nature centers, campgrounds, nature play areas, and permit offices. Bicycle and hiking paths are open. Please do not arrange any group activity, and maintain social distancing while hiking and biking.

I have attached a link to a chart at the end of this letter outlining the off-premises options offered by our local restaurants and bars. These are very difficult days for our local businesses. Please consider patronizing their off-premises services, keeping in mind at all times the recommendations for hand-washing and social distancing.



Both Mariano's and Hofherr Meat Company are open and selling groceries. To see their hours and special services, please go to the Village of Northfield website (www.northfieldil.org) and click on the link that says "Thank You for Shopping Local."

The 2020 U.S. census project is continuing. It is important that every Northfield resident is counted so that we can receive our fair share of federal funds. Please mail in the census form you received in the mail or answer the census on-line, using the unique identification number your household has been assigned.

Schools

For updates on our local schools and their remote learning options, please check their websites: New Trier High School (www.newtrier.k12.il.us); Sunset Ridge/District 29 (www.sunsetridge29.org); Avoca/District37 (www.Avoca37.org).

Financial Assistance

In an effort to assist local individuals and businesses who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Village of Northfield Community Development Director Steve Gutierrez has gathered a list of resources which may offer financial assistance. While Mr. Gutierrez *cannot provide financial counseling and cannot disburse any financial assistance*, he may be able to provide you with the name of resources who can help. He has information concerning small business loans, unemployment benefits, low-interest disaster loans, and more. You can reach Mr. Gutierrez at 847/784-3550.

In approximately three weeks, the federal government will send \$1,200 tax rebates to individuals, with additional \$500 payments per qualifying child. Note that this rebate will phase out when incomes exceed \$75,000 (or \$150,000 for joint filers).

Dates

Waste Management – Yard waste pick-up for subscribers begins on April 6; bulk pick-up service suspended; Village-wide clean-up date suspended until a date to be determined

Federal and state taxes due – July 15, 2020

REAL ID due – October 1, 2021

Finally, if you have a friend or neighbor who may need help, please reach out to them, or contact the Village at 847/446-9200.

Thanks to each one of you for abiding by the shelter-in-place guidelines. I cannot emphasize enough how important these guidelines are in fighting transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Let's all work towards ensuring that a best-case scenario unfolds in Northfield, and that *all* of our residents stay healthy.

Joan Frazier
Village President

[Click here to view which Northfield restaurants are offering off-premise dining options.](#)

