

PRESS RELEASE



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Folly Beach COVID-19 Update 2

The Mayor has declared a local state of emergency for the City of Folly Beach. We have a number of cancellations and closures below; please review carefully. Per CDC guidance, we ask that all businesses keep occupancy at below 50% of normal operations and encourage take out service only.

Cancellations

1. Trash operations will continue on normal schedule; as of today, Charleston County is planning to pick up recycling next Monday.
2. Public Safety will respond to calls, but please expect extra questions from Dispatch to screen for COVID symptoms for the safety of the public and our officers. Please use the Dispatch phone number (843-588-2433) rather than walk-in for non-emergency questions. The station will be closed to the public for tours and drop-ins.
3. The Governor has ordered that all municipal elections in April be postponed until after May 1st. Therefore, the City Council election and Utility Referendum will be canceled at this time. The Municipal Election Commission will meet in coming weeks to set a new date.
4. All City meetings scheduled for March are postponed: this includes Design Review Board (3/16), Candidate Forum (3/17), Tourism Visitor Promotion Committee (3/18), Parks & Recreation (3/24), and the OCRM Public Hearing (3/26).
5. City Hall will close today at 5pm and move to virtual, phone, and dropbox operations until further notice.
 - a. We encourage all citizens to delay all nonessential business and walk-in customer service. We will not issue golf cart permits, dog tags, parking permits during this time.
 - b. Building permits and business license applications are available online on the City website homepage and can be emailed to City staff for processing.
 - c. Parking and Court tickets can only be paid online or by mail to PO Box 48/Folly Beach, SC 29439
 - d. All payments can be made online via credit card or through the drop box in the lobby of City Hall, or by mail to PO Box 48/Folly Beach, SC 29439. Temporarily, we will accept credit card payments over the phone during the declared state of emergency.
6. All Charleston County Libraries (including Folly Beach) are closed to patrons until March 31st.
7. Municipal Court will be canceled March 20th and 27th.

Medical Testing

If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms including respiratory distress, please call 911. For all other symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, we encourage you to take advantage of the MUSC Health Virtual Care telehealth service. MUSC Health is offering COVID-19 screenings free of charge to South Carolina residents experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms located in South Carolina. Non-residents may use the service but may be charged for the visit and the panel. All MUSC screenings must be initiated online through their telehealth service: <https://campaigns.muschealth.org/virtual-care/index.html>. No walk-up traffic is accepted at the drive-through testing location.

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- ✓ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- ✓ Stay home when you are sick.
- ✓ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- ✓ Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).
- ✓ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

All citizens are encouraged to review the information below and make plans for you and your family in the event of disruptions to your daily routine.

- [About Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [How it spreads](#)
- [Symptoms](#)
- [Prevention & treatment](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Latest Updates](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control Latest Updates](#)

Information for Travel

- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#)
- [FAQ for travelers](#)