



For Immediate Release
March 26, 2020

Contact: Laura Blair
Public Information Officer
City of Red Wing
651.385.3699

Stay at Home Order Causes Temporary Reduction in City Staff and Services

(March 26th, 2020, Red Wing, Minn.) – All City of Red Wing offices have been closed to the public since March 17th to reduce community transmission of COVID-19, though staff has continued to work in the buildings during the public closure. Governor Walz issued an executive order yesterday requiring Minnesotans to stay at home for the next two weeks. Only staff that provide “essential services” can work; subsequently, a temporary reduction in some office hours and services will go into effect beginning Monday, March 30th.

Public Works

The Public Works office is shortening their office hours by one hour. Staff will be available to assist callers and answer emails from 8 AM– 4 PM, Monday through Friday. You can reach our Public Work office at 651-385-3674. If your call is not answered immediately it is because our staff is assisting another caller. Please leave a message and your call will be returned as quickly as possible.

The Solid Waste Campus office hours will remain the same. Staff are available to assist over the phone or by email from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

Parks & Playgrounds

All parks will remain open for outdoor enjoyment and exercise; however, all playgrounds will be closed as they cannot be disinfected adequately. This includes the Skate Park, and every playground, including those at Sunnyside and Burnside Schools. The fishing piers at Bay Point and Pottery Pond will also be closed.

Red Wing Public Library

The Red Wing Public Library will close completely at 5:00 PM on Friday, March 27th, and remain closed until at least Friday, April 10th. There will be no staff in the building and the book drop will be closed. Please keep all materials with you until we reopen. All due dates will be postponed until we open again. Patrons will not be charged any late fines during the closure. If you need assistance downloading eBooks to a Kindle, or have other questions for us, we will be responding to phone messages between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday, for the duration of the closure. You may also send questions or concerns to rwpl@selco.info.

Join our children's librarian, Megan Seeland, for Facebook Live story times on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at 10:30 AM. For those of you looking for materials to read, listen to, and watch while we are closed – don't worry! You can still get eBooks and eAudiobooks from us, as well as streaming video, all available from our website at <https://redwing.lib.mn.us>. We strongly encourage the community to monitor our Facebook page and our website for updates, new content, and information.

Sheldon Theatre

The box office is closed, but patrons can still reach us by email at buytickets@sheldontheatre.org to return or donate tickets to shows that were postponed due to COVID-19.

Permits & License

Permits will be issued and building inspections will still be conducted as needed.

Fire Department

The Fire Department will continue to operate and respond to all emergencies. We have contingent plans in place for personnel and personal protective equipment. Before sending our crews to a call, dispatch will ask a series of questions to determine if our responders need to don equipment to protect against exposure to COVID-19. Please answer all of the dispatcher's questions and continue to call 9-1-1 if an emergency response is needed.

All city services will be evaluated at the end of the stay at home period on April 10th. We thank you for your patience as we navigate these unprecedented times and work together to keep our community safe.

The City of Red Wing is dedicated to the ongoing health and well being of its residents. With its tradition of growth, stability and innovation, city leadership continues to maintain a proactive approach and a firm commitment to businesses, history, natural resources and, most important, the Red Wing community.

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