

The City of Dunedin continues to monitor COVID-19 (a novel coronavirus). The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 as a worldwide pandemic event. In an effort to keep everyone up-to-date, we will continue to work closely with Pinellas County and our public health partners to provide you with accurate information and guidance as events unfold.

***New Information is designated in dark red.**

CURRENT SITUATION:

- To date, there are now 42,402 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the State of Florida with 1,827 deaths. There are now 880 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Pinellas County with 63 deaths. The number of positive cases in the Dunedin area is now 20. Additional information about cases can be found at:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/96dd742462124fa0b38ddedb9b25e429>.
- The unemployment rate in the US rose to 14.7% in April.
- On May 5th, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners extended its current state of emergency to May 15th with no changes.
- On May 11, President Trump announced additional efforts to ensure that every state, territory and tribe has the resources they need to meet their testing goals.
 - The president announced that states, territories and tribes would be receiving \$11 billion in funds from the CARES Act to help governors meet their testing goals.
 - Throughout the month of May, FEMA and HHS will be delivering 12 million swabs to states nationwide.
 - The Administration has partnered with national retail companies as well as local independent pharmacies to increase access to testing. By the end of this week, more than 300 retail testing sites will be operational to serve Americans in 47 states and D.C., prioritizing access in underserved communities.
- On May 9th, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-120, allowing for the reopening of barbershops, cosmetology salons, and specialty cosmetology salons on Monday, May 11, "provided they adopt social distancing and precautionary measures."
- The Sheriff's Office Call Center TIPS line, 727-582-TIPS (8477), which was activated to receive reports of violations of the County's "COVID-19 – Safer at Home" Order will close on Saturday May 16th at 11:00 PM.
- The Pinellas County Citizen Information Center (CIC) is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; phone number is (727) 464-4333.
- The next Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) meeting will be held on Thursday, May 14th at 9:30 a.m. to discuss the next set of re-opening measures.
- The Sheriff's Office has created a Beach Capacity Dashboard which will be updated weekends starting Saturday, May 16th at 9:00 a.m. The dashboard can be accessed at <https://www.pcsoweb.com/beachcapacity>.

PAST NEWS:

- Honeymoon Island and Caladesi Park re-opened on Monday, May 4th at 50% capacity.
- The Trump Administration issued new guidelines, Opening Up America Again, to enable individual states to reopen in three phases using a deliberate, data-driven approach.
 - Under these guidelines, States will reopen one step at a time, rather than all at

once. The guidelines will empower Governors to tailor the phased reopening to address the situation in their State.

- Governors can begin phased openings at the Statewide or county-by-county level.
- On Tuesday, April 28th, The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners voted to allow the reopening of common area pools as of today at 6 a.m., and the conditional reopening of public beaches and public beach parking areas beginning Monday, May 4th, at 7 a.m. Childcare facility playgrounds may reopen; however public playgrounds remain closed.
 - Public beach visitors must adhere to CDC social distancing guidelines. Groups of more than 10 are prohibited, and people not from the same family must stay at least 6 feet apart.
 - Public beach restrooms must meet CDC guidelines for cleaning and disinfection. Anyone using public restrooms should be prepared to bring their own hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for use in these facilities.
 - Concessions, including snack bar and kayak and chair rentals, will remain closed pending new direction from the state regarding nonessential businesses.
 - Citizens are required to continue to practice social distancing, hand washing and other good hygiene habits to protect themselves and others. Those over age 65 and/or having underlying health conditions are encouraged to take even more steps to minimize their risk of exposure.
 - Sand Key Park, Fort De Soto Park and all of Fred Howard Park will reopen with the beaches.
 - Pinellas CARES Financial Assistance will support eligible individuals and families who have lost their jobs or significant income due to COVID-19 with one-time assistance paying overdue rent, mortgage and utility bills. Payments will be disbursed directly to the utility, mortgage or other eligible agency to which the individual bills are due. Additional information about how to apply will be posted at See <https://covid19.pinellascounty.org/business/pinellas-cares/pinellas-cares-financial-assistance/>.
- On April 29th, Governor DeSantis signed Executive Order 20-112, Phase 1: Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step Plan for Florida's Recovery, with an effective date of Monday, May 4th.
 - Phase One allows restaurants to offer outdoor seating with six feet of space between tables and indoor seating at 25% capacity.
 - No changes for bars, movie theaters, gyms and personal services such as hair dressers and barbers; they remain closed.
 - Phase One also maintains current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19, including vulnerable individuals continuing social distancing while in public, avoiding groups of 10 or more and using face masks in public if unable to maintain six feet distancing. Click on <https://thefloridachannel.org/wp-content/uploads/429GovPresentation.pdf> to view the Governor's PowerPoint presentation. For a list of Frequently Asked Questions, go to <https://floridapolitics.com/archives/330505-answers-to-frequently-asked-questions-about-gov-ron-desantis-plan-to-re-open-florida>.
- On May 1st, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners extended its current state of emergency to May 8th, and also issued additional guidance to align with the Governor's Executive Order.
 - Retail stores that were previously closed may now re-open and operate at 25% of stated building capacity. This includes pet grooming and car washes. Residents

are urged to wear masks at indoor businesses such as grocery and retail stores.

- Museums and libraries may reopen, also at 25% capacity, but programming and events are still not permitted. Cities have the right to decide whether to open.
- Large gatherings for sporting, leisure or similar activities at venues, arenas and stadiums are still prohibited.

- **Social Distancing:** Public education materials are being prepared to encourage residents to reduce crowds in public parks and on the Pinellas Trail.
- On Monday, March 10th, the Governor declared a State of Emergency. The state-wide declaration of emergency expands protection against price gouging on face masks and cleaning products. Suspected price gouging on those products can be reported to the Florida Attorney General at (866) 966-7226.
- On Friday, March 13th, the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners declared a Local State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.
- On March 16, 2020, President Donald J. Trump and the CDC issued "*15 Days to Slow the Spread*" guidance advising individuals to avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people and advising older persons and persons with serious underlying health conditions to stay home and away from others.
- On Tuesday, March 17, Governor Ron DeSantis and Pinellas County Administrator Barry Burton issued executive orders restricting restaurant occupancy and the hours in which establishments can serve alcohol.
- On March 18th, the Senate approved H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, which was then signed into law by the President. HR6201 is expected to go into effect on April 2nd through December 31, 2020. This legislation expands the Family Medical Leave Act, allowing eligible employees impacted by COVID-19 to use paid leave authorized by the Federal Government. Staff is currently disseminating the new leave requirements, how to implement and communicate to employees.
- Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-83 on March 24th, directing the State Surgeon and State Health Officer to issue a public health advisory to all persons over 65 years of age as well as those who have a serious underlying medical condition that makes them at high risk of infection from COVID-19. The advisory urges those in either category to stay home and to take the necessary measures to limit their risk of exposure to COVID-19.
- On Wednesday, March 25th, the Board of County Commissioners passed the "COVID-19 – Safer at Home" Order, Resolution No. 20-20 and Resolution No. 20-19 with a provision for Sheriff to post a notice on all retail establishments. The intent of the order is to reduce crowds. Businesses may remain open but need to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing. For more information, see the link below for FAQs. The Commissioners also extended the local state of emergency, beginning as of 3 p.m. today.
- On April 1, 2020, Governor DeSantis issued Executive Order No. 20-91, Safer At Home, which includes the following provisions:
 - Senior citizens and individuals with significant underlying medical conditions are ordered to stay at home and take all measures to limit the risk of exposure to COVID-19.
 - An order for all persons in Florida to limit their movements and personal interactions outside of their home to only those necessary to obtain or provide essential services or conduct essential activities.

The order goes into effect as of 12:01 am on April 3, 2020 through April 30, 2020 unless extended by a subsequent executive order.

- The Board of County Commissioners met on 4/2/2020 and passed the following resolutions:
 - Resolution 20-21: Extension of the local state of emergency
 - Resolution 20-22: Subsequent extensions of the emergency resolution, as necessary, are to be executed by the chairperson or County Administrator.
 - Resolution 20-23: Order Effectuating Office of the Governor Executive Order 20-91.
- On Thursday, April 16, President Trump unveiled the ***Guidelines for Opening Up America Again!*** Plan. The guidelines were developed by the top medical experts from across the Government using verifiable metrics. These guidelines outline a phased return to reopening and include specific steps for State, Local, and Tribal officials to follow in tailoring their response.
- On Tuesday, April 21, The Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners extended the Local State of Emergency declaration through May 1. Public beaches, pools and playgrounds remain closed.
- Florida Schools will continue distance learning and remain closed for the remainder of the school year.

WHAT THE CITY IS DOING:

LATEST NEWS:

- Highlander Pool will reopen on May 18th for lap swim and open swim only, by reservation.
- The City Manager extended the City's state of emergency to Friday, May 15th.

PAST NEWS:

- Effective May 6th, the City returned to Condition Yellow as detailed in the City's Epidemic/Pandemic Guidelines.
- Employees that had been sent home during the Safer at Home order began returning to work as of May 6th; the majority of employees will return on May 11th, following social distancing guidelines and using face masks/coverings and gloves as needed.
- City facilities remain closed to the Public; a partial reopening of some facilities is expected on May 18th.
- All City events are cancelled for the month of May.
- The Downtown Market remains closed until further notice.
- Economic Development Staff are working with the business community:
 - Making goodwill calls to provide information and assistance on all resources available; i.e. Small Businesses and Unemployment Insurance.
 - Researching and providing information on the State and Federal business assistance programs on the City web in a user friendly manner for impacted businesses.
 - Initiate and collaborate with Dunedin Chamber, DDMA, and Florida Business Incubator Inc., on weekly webinars providing information and guidance on applying for business assistance aid through the county, state and federal government. The webinars are recorded and can be accessed by anyone at <https://www.dunedingov.com/city-departments/economic-development>, or the Dunedin Chamber at www.Dunedinfl.com.
- On Monday, May 4th at 7 a.m., the City will reopen Dunedin Causeway Beach and parking,

Weaver Park, Weaver Park Pier and the Marina. City staff will remove all barricades and place signage indicating CDC guidelines for public areas, including social distancing.

- Staff will also open the Marina pier and the west side of the Marina.
- Sail Honeymoon's kayak operation will also reopen on Monday morning. The restaurant will open for takeout only.
- All City playgrounds, including the Sprayground, and Weaver Park Fit Zone will remain closed.
- The City Manager extended the City's state of emergency to Friday, May 8th.
- City facilities remain closed to the public.
- On May 6th, the City will return to Condition Yellow, as detailed in the City's Epidemic/Pandemic Guidelines. City Staff are developing Return to Work plans, as well as plans to reopen City facilities to the public on a limited basis.
- On March 13th, the Dunedin City Commission authorized the City Manager to execute a State of Emergency for the City. The State of Emergency allows the City Manager to make certain decisions as necessary to protect life and preserve critical resources.
- The City is coordinating with Pinellas County Emergency Management, Florida-Department of Health (DOH), and other partners to ensure we have the most up to date information.
- The City's Epidemic and Pandemic Guidelines booklet was distributed to all City employees. Per the booklet the City is now in Condition Yellow (page 7).
- On March 16th, the City Manager directed the cancellation of all Boards & Committee meetings and any associated events until further notice.
- On Tuesday, March 17th, The City Commission approved the cancellation of Special Events in the City until the end of April. All structured programs at City facilities were also cancelled until further notice.
- The City Manager authorized the closure of all city buildings to the general public beginning on Thursday, March 18th with the Library, the William Hale Senior Center, the Community Center (including the Fitness Center), the MLK Center, Highlander Pool and the Kiwanis Sprayground. The remaining City buildings and departments will also be closed to walk-ins as of Monday, March 23rd. The Fire Stations and Fire Administration building are also closed to walk-ins.
- Spring Camp closed at the end of the day on Friday, March 20th.
- The Annual Employee Recognition Picnic has been postponed until later this year.
- The Communications Team continues to encourage use of the **Wipe it Down Initiative**, which asks that all city employees take 5 minutes at the start of each day to wipe down/sanitize all city equipment, workspaces and public areas.
- The City continues to send regular notifications to residents through the City's website and social media.
- The City Manager authorized the closing of all City playgrounds in support of the County's "Safer at Home" Order by the end of the day on Wednesday, March 25th.
- The City Manager approved the City's Employee Temporary Telework Policy with an effective date of Wednesday, March 25th to allow employees in eligible positions to work from home. Department Directors have submitted plans to the City Manager's Office which will gradually reduce the number of non-essential employees in the workplace, and facilitate those who are not able to telework to either work in facilities that allow for social distancing, or to go home.
- The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or HR 6201), signed into law by the President requires certain employers, including the City, to provide employees with paid sick

leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. These provisions will apply from April 1 through December 31, 2020. City Staff created procedures and applicable pay codes for implementation at the City.

- On April 2, 2020, as detailed in the City's Epidemic/Pandemic Guidelines, the City went to Condition Red, which activated the City of Dunedin Disaster Pay Policy. In accordance with the Governor's Executive Order, non-essential employees will be working from home, with limited commuting to/from work authorized on an as needed basis. Employees whose positions are essential to ensure the continued operation of the City shall continue working onsite according to assigned schedules/shifts.
- As of April 2, 2020, the following City facilities/parks are now closed: All Recreation Centers (Community Center, Hale Senior Activity Center, Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center); all Aquatic Facilities (Pool and Sprayground); all Shelter Rentals; the Causeway Beach/Rotary Park; all Playgrounds and the Fit Zone at Weaver Park. Other facilities that are now closed: Marina Beach Access Road (slip renters on the west wall are still able to access their boats on foot); Marina Pier; Weaver Park (all of the west side) including the pier, and Weaver Park parking lots.
- The City will continue to scale back operations so that only essential employees will report to work in order to maintain the necessary operations at the City and comply with the Governor's Safer at Home order. City personnel who are sent home are either teleworking or completing training online.
- All Boards & Committee meetings and any associated events remain cancelled until further notice.
- Special events and the Downtown Market remain cancelled/closed until further notice.
- Economic Development Staff are working with the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce to maintain updated information on restaurants in Dunedin that offer take out or gift certificates. Library staff will be assisting in this effort by contacting Dunedin restaurants via phone or email. Once the database is updated, Staff will also contact retail merchants. The goal is to assist Dunedin businesses by providing an online resource to potential customers. The updated restaurant list will be available at <http://www.dunedinfl.com/gift-cards-offers>.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS:

- **Testing:** Community Health Centers of Pinellas (CHC) is now offering COVID-19 testing without restrictions to Pinellas County residents at three locations. Residents do not need to have symptoms or be a CHC patient.
 - Testing sites will provide same day walk-ups and drive ups, but appointments are recommended to decrease wait times. Make an appointment by calling 727-824-8181 and selecting option 0.
 - The following testing sites will be open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 - 707 East Druid Road, Clearwater, FL 33756
 - 7550 43rd Street North, Pinellas Park, FL 33781
 - 1344 22nd Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712 (Johnnie Ruth Clarke Center)
 - A condensed electronic registration will be required at testing sites. Residents are asked to bring a valid ID.

PAST NEWS:

- As of March 18th, seven BayCare Urgent Care Centers will host community COVID19 drive

through screening/collection centers throughout the Tampa Bay area. The centers that will only be dedicated to screening/collecting COVID-19 patients are Carillon, Countryside, New Port Richey, Bloomingdale, Haines City, New Tampa, and MLK. All COVID19 screening at these BUC clinics will be outside. For location addresses go to

<https://baycare.org/coronavirus/covid-19-testing-centers>. **Note:** Per BayCare, There is no charge to use the BayCare COVID19 screening, but you will be asked for your insurance carrier name. Testing is available Monday-Friday 8am-5pm; BayCare recommends going early. Keep in mind that not everyone will get tested; you must meet a set of screening criteria in order to be tested.

- Based on direction of the Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Pinellas County Schools will be closed from Monday, March 16 through Wednesday, April 15.
- Pinellas County School Board: continues to communicate w/ families, through posted COVID webpage, Direct email, phone, website, and social media.
- From the Department of Health: Vulnerable populations (i.e. persons age 60 years and above, diabetes patients, and anyone with pre-existing respiratory issues) are being advised to avoid groups, stay home when possible, and avoid crowds.
- The CDC recommends that travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all travel worldwide. Older adults and travelers with underlying health issues should avoid situations that put them at increased risk for more severe disease. This entails avoiding crowded places, and avoiding non-essential travel such as long plane trips.
- Many public events and meetings have been cancelled, postponed, or are being held online. Please contact the event organizers for the latest information. Here is a helpful link with many cancelled gatherings around the area: www.tampabay.com/news/health/2020/03/12/coronavirus-event-cancellations-in-tampa-bay/.
- Florida Attorney General's Price gouging hotline is activated. Residents can call (866)-9NO-SCAM to cover essential commodities covered by Florida's price gouging law under COVID-19.
- The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office has a phone line dedicated to COVID-19 related complaints so that they can respond promptly while violations are active; that number is (727)-582-8477.
- The CDC is now recommending the use of face masks in places where it may be hard to social distance (e.g. the grocery store); however, manufactured face masks are still very hard to find. Quite a number of people are either making cloth masks or using makeshift masks, which is better than nothing. The CDC also provided information on the proper way to wear, remove and maintain cloth face masks, as well as a link to a YouTube video that shows how to make a cloth mask in 45 seconds. For more information, go to the following links:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGSY3mEMhoE>.
- Florida residents can text FLCOVID19 to 888-777 to receive updates on COVID-19 information. They will then be prompted to submit their zip code to receive updates on a specific zip code.

HOW COVID-19 SPREADS:

- COVID-19 can spread from person to person through small droplets from the nose or mouth, including when an individual coughs or sneezes.

- These droplets may land on objects and surfaces.
- Other people may contract COVID-19 by touching these objects or surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth.

SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:

- **Symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough and shortness of breath.**
- Symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as many as 14 days following exposure.
- Most people recover from the COVID-19 without needing special treatment.
- The elderly and those with underlying medical problems like high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes, are more likely to develop serious illness.
- If you suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, contact your healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. You or your healthcare provider should immediately notify the Florida Department of Health.
- If you are diagnosed with COVID-19 or need to stay home to care for a sick family member, please contact Human Resources for Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) paperwork and further instructions. FMLA will protect your position while you are out of work.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS:

- Keeping hands clean through improved hand hygiene is one of the most important steps we can take to avoid getting sick and spreading germs to others.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, 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.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
 - Put your used tissue in a waste basket.
 - If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve, not your hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Practice Social Distancing, which includes **staying home from work when you are ill.**
- **Please Note: If you're experiencing symptoms (fever, cough, difficulty breathing) or have traveled to impacted areas, call DOH-Pinellas, (727) 824-6900.**

In addition to weekly city situation reports, we ask that you educate yourselves and your families with confirmed information from reputable national and local agencies such as the CDC and Florida Department of Health. A list of resources is below.

TRUSTED RESOURCES:

- CDC_COVID-19 website:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- Florida DOH website:
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/>

- The Pinellas County Website:
 - <http://covid19.pinellascounty.org/>
- COVID-19 Prevention Tips & Fact Sheet:
 - Stop the Spread of Germs
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>
 - Symptoms of Coronavirus
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>
 - COVID-19 Fact Sheet
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>

Florida DOH (Pinellas) Information Line:

- The Pinellas County COVID-19 Information line is available 24/7. Phone: 727-824-6900.

Pinellas County

- Pinellas County “COVID-19 Safer At Home” Order FAQ
 - <https://go.activecalendar.com/pinellascounty/site/pressrelease/event/pinellas-county-covid-19-safer-at-home-order/>

National

- **Governor’s Executive Order 20-120**
 - <https://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/EO-20-120.pdf>
- **Providing Testing Resources**
 - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/united-states-built-worlds-leading-coronavirus-testing-system/>
- Guidelines for Opening Up America Again
 - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/>