



*A place where families and businesses thrive.*

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### Coronavirus Information and Impacts in Forest Grove

The health and well-being of our community members, employees, businesses, and partners are our top priority. As part of our preparedness efforts, the City of Forest Grove is adhering to guidance from the health authorities listed below. Please utilize these health experts for accurate coronavirus information:

- State of Oregon: [The Oregon Health Authority \(OHA\)](#)
- Washington County: [The Washington County Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- United States: [The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- International: [The World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

We appreciate everyone’s efforts to stay informed and to help reduce the spread of the virus. These health organizations have stated that the key is to prepare, not panic.

#### State of Oregon

Oregon Governor Kate Brown has announced the following to slow the spread of the coronavirus:

- All large gatherings of more than 250 people are canceled statewide effective immediately for four weeks until April 8. This applies to organized events only, and not to stores, shopping centers, or schools.
- All non-essential school-associated gatherings and group activities should be canceled, including field trips, parent meetings, and competitions. Please check the [Forest Grove School District](#) website for additional information.
- Social distancing measures are recommended, including: increased physical space between employees in offices and worksites, limited in-person meetings, limited travel, and staggered work schedules where possible.

#### City of Forest Grove

The City is carefully monitoring and contingency planning. The City has an Emergency Operations Plan and a Continuity of Operations Plan and city staff are meeting regularly to review operational decisions and impacts to the community. We are coordinating very closely with Washington County, the designated Emergency Operations Center and Health Agency, for public health emergencies.

With few exceptions, the City remains open for business. Please check “Latest News” on the website at [www.forestgrove-or.gov](http://www.forestgrove-or.gov) for daily updates. The following City events have been postponed or canceled:

- Local Authors Fair at City Library on March 14                      POSTPONED
- Forest Grove Fire Station Tours    CANCELLED

The City of Forest Grove has also taken the following precautionary measures:

- Posted signs in all City buildings encouraging patrons and staff to wash their hands and stay home if sick.
- Increased cleaning frequency in high-traffic areas such as public restrooms and countertops.

#### Parks/Aquatics:

- Increased disinfecting and cleaning of public restrooms, locker rooms, and counter areas.

- Reorganizing the pool deck spectator areas to increase social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer at all public counters.

#### Library:

- Increased disinfecting of keyboards, mice, and countertops.
- Hand sanitizer at each cluster of work stations.
- Temporary removal of all toys from public areas.
- Evaluating scheduled programs through the first week of April to determine if they will be held or postponed.

#### Police:

- Encouraging remote reporting of non-emergency incidents by dialing 503-629-0111.
- For emergencies, continue to utilize 911.
- For police reports, please visit the website at [www.forestgrove-or.gov](http://www.forestgrove-or.gov) , go to the Police page, click on Records Request, click on Request Public Records and email request to [pdrecords@forestgrove-or.gov](mailto:pdrecords@forestgrove-or.gov).

#### Fire:

- Acquiring additional personal protective equipment for first responders.
- Posting prevention flyers at all public facilities.
- Distributing prevention flyers to the Chamber of Commerce for distribution to businesses.
- Educating staff on decontamination of highly used public items, i.e., books, equipment.

#### Water:

- Protection of public health is Forest Grove Water Department's number one priority. Before reaching Forest Grove customer's taps, water is filtered, cleaned, and treated. This process removes, disinfects, and chemically inactivates viruses, bacteria, and other living organisms from the drinking water, including COVID-19.
- Water served by the City of Forest Grove Water Department is safe to drink and use.

#### Senior and Community Center:

- The following activities have been suspended temporarily:
  - Friday breakfast
  - April's 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Dinner
  - Bingo
  - Any Center sponsored activities with more than 10 attendees.
  - Gift Shop

Americans over the age of 60 and those with underlying health issues are urged to take precautions, including social distancing.

#### Other Ways to Stay Informed

- Read [OHA's answers to frequently asked questions](#).
- Ask general questions about coronavirus by dialing 2-1-1.
  - You can call 7 days a week, from 8 am to 11 pm, for answers to your basic COVID-19 questions, or visit [www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org).
- Receive coronavirus updates through email or text message.
  - [Sign up online with the Oregon Health Authority](#).

#### What to Do Right Now

- Stay home if you are sick
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and water
- Use hand sanitizer
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or with your sleeve
- Wash your hands and stay home when you're sick – worth repeating

Have a question for the City of Forest Grove? [Email us here](#) and we'll update this with more information to questions.