

CITY OF
WINTER SPRINGS



INSIDER

APRIL 2020 • VOLUME 154

**CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)**

MESSAGE FROM MAYOR LACEY

To the citizens of Winter Springs,

I would first like to express my sincere gratitude for your willingness to adhere to the latest measures implemented by Seminole County in an effort to keep our community safe from COVID-19 (Coronavirus). This is a difficult time for all of us as

we adjust to this "new norm" of going about our daily lives. Through cooperative partnerships with Seminole County officials and the Governor's Office, we will prevail through this challenging time.

The City of Winter Springs has been tasked with making tough decisions that have not been taken lightly. Every choice has been carefully evaluated to ensure that the impact of the coronavirus on our community is minimized. I have been meeting with Seminole health officials, law enforcement, emergency management, and mayors from all seven cities regularly to discuss proactive measures and policies for the pandemic that we are all facing and to collaborate on our path forward. Our number one priority is the safety and health of our citizens and employees.



While our police, fire, public works, utilities, and other city staff members cannot stay at home, you can. They come to work for you, so please stay home for them. Be mindful of others, stay 6-feet away, and do not gather in groups of 10 or more. To be successful, we all need to be personally responsible. I'm asking our residents to be patient and selfless as we all continue to follow the guidelines from the President of the United States, Florida Governor, CDC, and Seminole County officials.

Be safe, be kind, stay connected to your family and friends through digital means, and, most importantly, help one another. We will get through this together.

- Mayor Charles Lacey, Winter Springs

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Effective Monday, March 30, Seminole County's Social Distancing Order allows businesses to remain open pending the following conditions:

- a) All employees and patrons must practice social distancing by staying at least six (6) feet apart;
- b) Group meeting and/or training sizes must be limited to ten (10) people or less;
- c) Limit occupancy to 30% of the maximum allowable capacity under the fire code, for non-residential, non-medical, and non-lodging uses; and
- d) Checkout points and staging areas, including store fronts, must be monitored for social distancing requirements by means of marking floors or similar actions to maintain six (6) feet distance between customers.

PENALTIES

Businesses and individuals that do not comply with this Order on a consistent basis are subject to monetary fines up to \$500 per occurrence. Repeat violations could result in mandatory closure pursuant to Section 72.6(b)(1)(F), Seminole County Code, and other applicable Florida Statutes. Can be enforcement by code enforcement and law enforcement officials.

EXCEPTIONS

This Order does not apply to first responders, healthcare/medical workers, veterinarian staff, shelter/rehab staff, utility providers, food service workers, childcare providers, transit and construction.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR INDIVIDUALS

Social gatherings must be limited to no more than ten (10) persons.

VIOLATIONS

To report a violation of this Order in Winter Springs, please call the Winter Springs Police Department's non-emergency line at 407-327-1000.

To view the full Executive Order and an FAQ list, visit www.prepareseminole.org.

COVID-19 TESTING

STEPS FOR TESTING

COVID-19 tests are only facilitated with a physician's order for patients who meet the evaluation criteria as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Physicians are stringently adhering to the testing criteria set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to determine if a patient qualifies for a COVID-19 test. A doctor will likely test you for other illnesses, such as the flu, before ordering a COVID-19 test. Unless you are experiencing severe respiratory distress, such as shortness of breath or chest pain, you should not go to an ER for a COVID-19 test.

1. CALL YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER
2. YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER WILL DETERMINE IF YOU NEED TO BE TESTED
3. IF YOU NEED TO BE TESTED, AN ORDER WILL BE GIVEN FOR YOU TO BE TESTED

DRIVE-THRU TESTING

Regional partners have assisted with executing a state and federally-managed drive-thru test site at the Orange County Convention Center. This community-based test site is led by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and will be limited to 250 tests per day. The site opens daily at 9:00 a.m. and will remain open until 5:00 p.m. or until 250 individuals have been swabbed.

Testing will be available **ONLY** for first responders, healthcare workers and symptomatic individuals age 65 and older.

- For individuals 65+:
 - Must have an on-site temperature of 99.6 degrees or higher and respiratory symptoms
 - Must have an ID to be tested
- For first responders and medical staff:
 - Do not have to have COVID-19 symptoms
 - Must have valid agency ID

For those who visit the site, be prepared to wait inside personal vehicles for extended wait times. There are no bathrooms on site. Test results will not be provided on-site. **Please DO NOT call Orange County Convention Center for information.**

For more information on the drive-thru testing site, please see the linked Florida Department of Health Drive Thru [FAQ sheet](#).

CITY RESPONSE

CITY HALL LOBBY CLOSED

As a safety precaution and to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the City Hall lobby is closed to the public until further notice.

For Utility Billing services

contact utilitybills@winterspringsfl.org or 407-327-5996. We are encouraging residents to pay their utility bill online at www.winterspringsfl.org, over the phone, by mail, or at our self-serve kiosk located in the City Hall parking lot.

Additionally, all utility service disconnections have been temporarily suspended in order to deliver essential services. Waste collection services will continue as scheduled.

For **Permitting services**, contact customerservice@winterspringsfl.org or 407-327-5963. Virtual inspections are now available at our website.

CLOSED/CANCELLED/SUSPENDED

- City Hall Lobby until further notice.
- Winter Springs Senior Center and Therapy Pool until further notice.
- City Park restrooms and splash playgrounds until further notice.
- Explore Outdoors (Tree Giveaway program will be rescheduled).
- City facilities, fields, and park pavilions rentals through April 12.
- City events, activities, and programs are canceled through April 12. Suspensions include but are not limited to adult sports, youth sports, recreation classes, and police programs.
- Employment services such as interviewing and hiring have been suspended until further notice. We are still accepting applications, but will not be interviewing.
- Fingerprinting Services until further notice.
- Police Explorers Meetings until further notice.
- Citizen's Advisory Committee April meeting.



CITY PARKS

City parks are open at this time for general use (restrooms and splash playgrounds are closed). However, staff strongly recommends all users exercise extra caution when in any public area and continue to use elevated hygiene protocols.



CONSERVE WATER

While we're spending time at home social distancing, **remember to conserve water.**

- 1) Follow the Water Restrictions schedule for daylight saving time.
- 2) Turn off the faucet when you're not using it.
- 3) Run the dishwasher only when it's full.

WHAT'S FLUSHABLE?

The short answer is **No. 1, No. 2, and toilet paper.** Sewer systems are designed to take away wastewater from sinks and baths and take away toilet paper and human waste flushed down the toilet. Items such as

disposable wipes, paper towels, tissues, disposable diapers, feminine products, cotton balls, bandages, prescriptions, cleaning wipes or trash of any kind can create blockages in sewers or damage to the environment by putting it down the toilet. Despite being advertised as 'flushable,' disposable wipes are NOT meant to be disposed of in a toilet.

RECYCLING SERVICES

Residents should sort recyclables before placing curbside. Seminole County Solid Waste generally offers curbside sorting, but for the safety of collection crews, asks customers to self-sort.

Tissues and paper towels should be placed with regular household garbage. Fibers should be sorted together. This includes:

- Pasteboard (i.e., cereal boxes, empty paper towel and toilet paper rolls, soda boxes, beer boxes, tissue boxes, gift boxes, pizza boxes and shoe boxes)
- Brown paper grocery bags (no wax, no wet strength material, no liners)
- Corrugated cardboard (flattened and cut down to fit inside the recycle bin)
- Newspaper, supplements, magazines and catalogs

- Box board, carrier stock, white and colored paper
- Telephone Books

Co-mingled containers should be sorted together. This includes:

- Plastic Containers #1-7 (#'s on bottom of containers) Remove all lids
- Glass bottles and jars (clear, green and brown) Remove all lids
- Aluminum cans
- Steel cans and tin household containers, such as food cans

For more information, visit www.winterspringsfl.org/covid19.

PREVENTION



1) Wash Your Hands Often

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. A trick to know if you've washed long enough, is by singing the birthday song until you've finished washing.

2) Practice Social Distancing

Assume that everyone has the virus and avoid close contact. Put 6-feet in distance between yourself and other people if COVID-19 is spreading in your community. Avoid hugs, handshakes, gatherings of ten or more people, and close quarters.

3) Clean and Disinfect

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, first clean with detergent or soap and water, and then disinfect.

4) Stay Home and Cover your Mouth

Stay home if you are sick, except to get medical care. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. After, immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

5) Call Before You Go

Call your doctor or your County Health Department if you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing. Tell them about your symptoms and your exposure. They will decide whether you need to be tested.

6) Rumor Control

Do your part to stop the spread of disinformation by doing three easy things; don't believe

the rumors, don't pass them along and go to trusted sources of information like www.coronavirus.gov or www.prepareseminole.org to get the facts about the COVID-19 response.

PREPARE SEMINOLE

Seminole County Office of Emergency Management has created a central hub for all county information and local updates regarding COVID-19. For information about

- Executive Order: Social Distancing,
- COVID-19 Testing,
- Seminole County Public Schools,
- Business Resources,
- County Closures,

And more, visit www.prepareseminole.org.

INFORMATION HOTLINE

Seminole County Emergency Management and Florida Department of Health-Seminole personnel will be on hand to answer non-emergency questions related to COVID-19 and Seminole County's response

The Citizens Information Hotline will be available seven (7) days a week, 8:00am-5:00pm at 407-665-0000

Spanish speaking operators are available

To receive text alerts from Seminole County Office of Emergency Management related to COVID-19, please text COVID19INFO to 888777 to opt in; standard text message rates apply



April 1: Planning and Zoning Board/Local Planning Agency Regular Meeting

April 1: Winter Springs Police Explorers Meeting [CANCELLED]

April 2: Oak Forest Wall and Beautification District Advisory Committee Regular Meeting [RESCHEDULED]

April 4: Explore Outdoors [CANCELLED]

April 6: City Commission Special Meeting [CANCELLED]

April 15: Camp Sunshine Summer Camp - Registration Opens for Residents

April 15: Tusawilla Lighting and Beautification District Advisory Committee Regular Meeting

April 15: WSPD Explorers Meeting [CANCELLED]

April 20: City Commission Special Meeting

April 27: City Commission Regular Meeting

April 28: Code Enforcement Board Regular

MEET YOUR MAYOR & COMMISSION



Mayor Charles Lacey



Commissioner Jean Hovey



Commissioner Kevin Cannon



Deputy Mayor Ted Johnson



Commissioner TiAnna Hale



Commissioner Geoff Kendrick



Check out the latest proposed and current City projects coming soon to the City of Winter Springs!



City of Winter Springs

1126 East State Road 434, Winter Springs, FL 32708

407-327-1800 | communications@winterspringsfl.org

www.winterspringsfl.org

Connect with us!

