



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2020

MEDIA CONTACT

Gregory Jackson
Village Administrator
847-872-3846 x1518
224-321-3157 (mobile)
GJackson@winthropharbor.com

PRESS RELEASE

Village of Winthrop Harbor Suspends Various Services

Winthrop Harbor, IL: In response to guidance from public health officials regarding the most effective strategies to prevent the spread of illness, the Village of Winthrop Harbor is taking the following pre-emptive measures:

- As of Friday, March 13, 2020 all activities at the Schlader Recreation Center (2700 9th Street) were cancelled or postponed until further notice.
- Effective immediately all facility rentals including the Village Community Center (1520 7th Street) will be suspended.
- All public meetings have been cancelled for the next two weeks, at which time the situation will be reassessed. These meetings include all Village Boards, Commissions and Committees. The Village Board of Trustees will be meeting for an emergency session on Tuesday, March 17th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss and approve a Declaration of Local State of Emergency.

In addition, effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020, the Village of Winthrop Harbor is suspending all non-emergency operations at Village Hall (830 Sheridan Road). There will be no general public access to Village Hall. In addition, there will also be a suspension of public access to the Village Public Works facility (940 W. Broadway). This will be reassessed on a weekly basis. For payments the public are encouraged to utilize online options at www.winthropharborpay.com or drop payments in the secure box located in front of Village Hall. On site permit requests will also be suspended. Village Administration and Community Development staff will be available for telephone inquiries at 847-872-3846. Village

There will be no disruption of emergency public services, including Police, Fire and Emergency Responders, Water, Sewer or Refuse.

Public Safety Departments (830 Sheridan Road) will remain open during regular operating hours, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Residents should still call 911 in cases of emergencies, and call 847-871-2131 for all other non-emergency events. If you are not already registered for the Village's emergency notification program, please do so by visiting www.whpd.org/village/notice.html

As this is a developing situation, The Village will monitor and assess these protocols and adjust as needed. The Village will alert the community via email, website and social media and through local media when the operations suspension period ends. Please sign up to receive email notifications at www.whpd.org/village/notice.html

Mayor Michael Bruno stated, "The health and welfare of the community remains our priority. The Village Board keeps in constant contact with Village staff, county, state and federal agencies as well as our neighboring communities to stay abreast of developments associated with this virus. It is based on the best professional and scientific information and advice that we feel these measures are in the best interest of our staff and residents."

"The actions being taken are done to focus on the most critical needs of our community during these challenging times," stated Village Administrator Gregory Jackson. "We thank our business community and the residents of Winthrop Harbor for their patience and understanding."

For updates related to Village responses, actions, and or activities the public can go to www.winthropharbor.com.

For media inquiries contact Gregory Jackson, Village Administrator, at 224-321-3157.

#####