

EMERGENCY DECLARATION

MARCH 18th, 2020

Whereas Governor Philip D. Murphy on March 9, 2020 issued Executive Order No. 103 in which he declared a State of Emergency pursuant to N.J.S.A. App. A.:9-33 et seq. and a Public Health Emergency as contemplated by N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq. to protect the health and wellbeing of municipal employees and the citizens of New Jersey; and

Whereas, the World Health Organization declared Covid-19 to be a pandemic; and

Whereas, the President of the United States has declared a National State of Emergency.

After conferring with the Township's Office of Emergency Management, Chief of Police Zeck, and the Township's designated physician at AtlantiCare, in order to protect the residents of Mullica Township and our dedicated employees, especially those who are at the highest risk, from potential exposure to Covid-19 I hereby declare a temporary State of Emergency within Mullica Township.

As a result of this declaration:

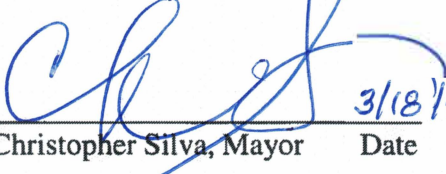
- A. Effective immediately, and until further notice, all municipal Township buildings shall be closed to the public. If you have an urgent matter which cannot be resolved by telephone, email, or other electronic means of communication, you may request an appointment which will require pre-screening over the phone, using the list below:


- Police Non-Emergency: 609.561.7600, chendrickson@mullicatownship.org
- Fire Non- Emergency: 609.652.2037
- Township Hall Main Number: 609.561.7070 www.mullicatownship.org
- Mayor: 609.561.7070, ext. 114 ChrisSilva@mullicatownship.org
- Animal Control: 609.296.0675, Animal Control of South Jersey
- Clerk: 609.561.7070, ext. 114, ext. 115 kjohnson@mullicatownship.org;
alupinetti@mullicatownship.org
- Municipal Court: 609.561.6696, ext. 112, ext. 113, eaguina@mullicatonwship.org
- Construction, Building and Code Enforcement: 609.561.7070, ext. 117,
zacevedo@mullicatownship.org
- Engineering: 609.561.7070, ext. 114, kjohnson@mullicatownship.org
- Financial: 609.561.7070, ext. 111, dstollenwerk@mullicatownship.org
- Health: 609.645.5971, Atlantic County Board of Health
- Planning: 609.561.7070, ext. 114, kjohnson@mullicatownship.org
- Property Maintenance: 609.561.7070, zacevedo@mullicatownship.org
- Public Works: 609.561.7070, ext. 129, cgras@mullicatownship.org
- Recreation: 609.561.7070, ext. 114 kjohnson@mullicatownship.org
- Tax Assessor: 609.561.7070, ext. 119, gmead@mullicatownship.org
- Tax Collector: 609.561.7070, ext. 116, ext. 115, bcappuccio@mullicatownship.org

Trash collection at the transfer station will continue until further notice.

- B. Commencing with the Township Committee Meeting on March 24th, and until further notice, all Township Committee meetings shall be conducted electronically with a link which will be published and posted on the Township's web page to allow for public comment in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
- C. Until further notice Township Committee meetings will be held once per month on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm, commencing on April 28th. Thereafter, all other regularly scheduled April meetings of the municipality shall be canceled and notice of such cancellation shall be published and posted in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
- D. All large gatherings, sports and recreation activities and other public events on Township owned property are postponed until further notice.
- E. All gatherings of persons in the State of New Jersey have been limited to fifty (50) persons or fewer. I encourage people who are sick or in a high-risk category to consider not attending events at which crowds may be in attendance.
- F. There will be posted on the Township's web page a copy of a COVID-19 Fact Sheet issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in both English and Spanish together with a link to the CDC Interim Guidance for mass gatherings or large community events.
- G. I encourage everyone to continue to use safe hygiene practices, stay at home if you are sick, and avoid all high-risk areas, follow all protocols and guidelines provided by:
 - ✓ New Jersey Department of Health, and recommend registering with the Atlantic County Emergency Notification System at "<http://www.readyatlantic.org/stay/com> notification.asp."
 - ✓ CDC's Recommendations:
"http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2Findex.html"

This declaration shall take effect immediately and continue until such time as the emergency has passed and this declaration is rescinded.


Christopher Silva, Mayor 3/18/2020
Date


Jerry Critelli, E.M.C. 3-18-2020
Date

Other information and resources:

Gov. Phil Murphy ordered the closure of indoor malls, amusement centers, and amusement parks in New Jersey effective 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 17th.

The order will remain in effect until "the current emergency ends," Murphy said.

Restaurants within those malls, and also that have their own entrances, may remain open for takeout and delivery only.

On Tuesday, March 17th, Governor Murphy announced another 89 positive COVID-19 cases, bringing the statewide total to 267.

On Monday, a third person died as a result of the coronavirus.

All of New Jersey's public and private schools, along with colleges and universities, will close indefinitely starting March 18th in response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The governor also said that gatherings of 50 or more people would be prohibited, in line with federal guidelines.

Murphy also said he's discouraging all nonessential travel throughout the state.

Non-essential retail establishments must close at 8:00 pm but may remain open during the day if there are 50 or fewer people in the store.

On Monday, March 16, Governor Phil Murphy imposed new statewide restrictions shutting casinos, bars, theaters, performing arts centers and fitness center gyms and classes. Restaurants and liquor stores are limited to delivery and take-out service only.

On Saturday, March 14, State Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner suspended for two weeks commencing Monday, March 16, all municipal court sessions, to mitigate public exposure to COVID-19 coronavirus.

On Thursday, March 12, State Supreme Court Chief Justice Stuart Rabner suspended all new jury trials until further notice.

Information on the virus and utilities assistance during the emergency:

The virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading from person-to-person. Someone who is actively sick with COVID-19 can spread the illness to others. That is why CDC recommends that these

patients be isolated either in the hospital or at home (depending on how sick they are) until they are better and no longer pose a risk of infecting others.

There is currently no vaccine for COVID-19.

While the best way to prevent illness is to avoid virus exposure, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention always recommends taking preventive actions to contain the spread of viruses.

This includes:

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.
- 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.

Residents who have questions about the virus can contact the State of New Jersey's hotline at 1 (800) 222-1222. The hotline is home of the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System, and is staffed 24 hours a day by state health workers.

If you or someone you know is having difficulty paying South Jersey Gas bills, valuable resources for Energy Assistance are available in the "For My Home" section of their website.

Atlantic City Electric has suspended service disconnections and is waiving new late payment fees through at least May 1 and will be working with customers on a case-by-case basis to establish payment arrangements and identify energy assistance options.

Customers who may be challenged in paying their bill should contact Atlantic City Electric Customer Care at 800-642-3700. Atlantic City Electric will work with customers who may have difficulty paying their energy bill. The company offers payment options, like Budget Billing, which averages payments over a 12-month period to help customers manage their monthly energy bill, or flexible payment arrangements that offer individually tailored payment installment plans.