

**SGCDC's Covid-19 Neighborhood Navigation Guide**  
**July 24, 2020 Update**

The following are updates to Spring Garden CDC's Covid-19 Neighborhood "Navigation" Guide. Copies are being posted on the SGCA and SGCDC websites. ***Be sure to look at the list of current offerings by some of our local businesses, below. They need our support more than ever to help them weather the pandemic.***

Stay safe, and well!

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*City, State and Federal Covid-19 Responses, Issues:*

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**The City Has Announced that it is Unlikely to Allow Indoor Dining Starting on August 1, as Previously Hoped:** Coronavirus cases are on the increase nearly everywhere, fueled in part by a hasty attempt to return to normal in some locales. We are lucky to have public officials in Philadelphia who are both cautious and realistic, as they try to balance opening the economy with public safety. But our restaurants are hurting!

**City SWEEP Teams from the Streets Department are Visiting Restaurants with Outdoor Dining and "Streeteries" to Provide Information and Issue Warnings for Any Non-Compliance:** The Health Department and L&I also making inspections. Failure to comply with City regulations could result in a \$2,000 fine and or closure.

**Many Federal Protections for Residents Adversely Affected by the Pandemic Are Set to Expire Soon; Let's Hope the State Keeps Many of its Own in Place:**

When the initial federal pandemic relief legislation was passed, it was contemplated that the crisis would be easing by this time. But the opposite has happened. The virus is raging out of control in much of the country, just as some critical protections are schedule to end. These include expanded unemployment benefits, the Paycheck Protection Program, foreclosure moratorium on federally backed mortgages, eviction moratoriums for federally backed properties, and some student loan protections, among others. Let's hope the State will help provide some protection by extending its own moratoriums.

**New Federal Pandemic Relief Legislation Has Been Bogged Down in Partisan Differences:**

While critical relief measures are needed even more at this time to combat the ongoing, and growing, health and economic effects of the pandemic, the effort seems to be stalled in partisan difference. There has been an effort to end or reduce funding for testing and tracing, a move opposed by many in both parties. Some legislators want to end or lower expanded unemployment benefits to provide an incentive to go back to work. Some want funding for local governments to avoid a critical shortage of local services, others oppose. Congress recesses in August so there is little time left to iron out a multitude of issues to help the country weather the pandemic and to begin to get the virus under control again.

**City Trash Collection Continues to Fall Behind During the Pandemic, Various Reasons Alleged:**

Councilman at Large Brian O'Neill wrote a scathing letter to the Mayor regarding trash collection falling behind for days in some neighborhoods. The Streets Department says the problem is that 100 workers have tested positive for the virus and others have had to stay home to take care of children and family members. There is no social distancing on trucks with 3 crew members. Heat and storms have also contributed to the problem. However, some have alleged that the delays are caused by worker and union efforts to receive hazard pay. Hazard pay was provided to sanitation workers for a few weeks in March, and when that ended, a 2% pay raise. There has been a suggestion that private haulers be brought in to help, a move opposed by the union. We thank our sanitation workers for their hard work during this difficult time.

**Governor Wolf Has Pulled Funding from Lebanon County for Refusing to Obey His Emergency Orders:**

The Governor had long threatened to pull funding from cities, counties, and nonprofits that defied his orders designed to curb the spread of the virus. He did so last week for Lebanon County. Local leaders had voted in mid-May to lift the pandemic restrictions ordered by the Governor. He has withheld \$13 million in funding.

**The Newly Mandated Postal Service Slow Downs Could Affect All Aspects of Life During the Pandemic, Including November Voting:**

The recently appointed Postmaster General has ordered changes in how the Post Office operates, designed to save money. The effect has been a slowdown of mail delivery. You may already have noticed it. This could adversely affect online ordering of necessities during the pandemic, and the timeliness of receipt of mail-in ballots in

the November 2020 election. A bill to provide \$35 billion in funding to keep the mail flowing is stalled in Congress. A previously approved \$10 billion credit line for the Post Office remains unused based on restrictions imposed by the Administration. The volume of first-class mail has dropped dramatically during the pandemic.

**The Philadelphia School District Has Opened Registration for its Digital Academy; the Deadline to Register is Tuesday August 4; However, the School District's Reopening Plans Are Now on Hold:** The Academy will provide students with the option of 100% digital learning instead of the hybrid model which includes 2 days a week in-person learning. Students who enroll cannot switch to partial in-person learning until January 2021, if in-person classes are offered, see below. **Conversely, those students who do not apply now will automatically be assigned to the hybrid model and will have to wait until January to change to all-digital, if the hybrid model is offered.** *However, decisions about school openings are still very much in flux as the virus continues to spread, and after an 8-hour School Board meeting the night of July 23 where parents and teachers expressed significant concern about the safety of any in-person classes.*

**The State's Largest Teachers' Union has Asked Governor Wolf to Order Schools to Plan for Online Teaching, Only, in the Event of a Continuing Increase in the Spread of the Virus:** The union says that the distinct possibility of an increase in the spread of the virus could make it impossible to open schools for in-person teaching.

**Bucks County Officials Will Provide Face Shields for all Elementary and Middle School Children if Schools Open in the Fall:** It is not clear, however, whether face shields provide better protection, or even as effective protection, as masks, but they are easier to wear.

**Governor Wolf Supports the Federal Bill to Aid Restaurants Hurt by the Pandemic:** A bill has been introduced in Congress to assist restaurants hurt by the pandemic. It was co-sponsored by Rep. Dwight Evans of Philadelphia. Called the Restaurants Act for short, it would provide \$120 billion for a Restaurant Revitalization Fund. Grants would be available for the difference between what a restaurant made in 2019 vs. what it is expected to make in 2020. The money could be used for virtually all restaurant expenses including rent, payroll, food, PPE, and other costs. The bill has apparently garnered some bipartisan support.

Given the wide differences in Washington as to what the next round of relief bills should include, and what aspects of the pandemic they should focus on, however, it is not clear whether this bill has a chance of success.

**PA's List of Self-Quarantine States is Still at 18, NJ is now at a Mind-Boggling 31 States, Including Delaware:** Anyone traveling to one of these states and returning to PA or NJ must self-quarantine for 14 days to avoid bring the virus back with them. The PA list can be found [here](#) and the NJ list can be found [here](#).

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*Local Businesses, What's New, Ongoing:*

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Our local businesses are all struggling to survive the pandemic. Please support them by making a purchase/patronizing them and/or buying a gift certificate for future use. You could even start your holiday shopping early! Call or check their websites and/or social media for hours/offerings.

**St. Stephens Green, 1701 Green St., has joined SGCDC's Gift Card Matching Program.** Buy a gift card at St. Stephens Green and SGCA will match it.

**The Following Restaurants are Currently Offering Outdoor Dining:**

Bar Hygge*	The Green Room	Luigi's Pizza Fresca
Bishop's Collar	Mangia Macaroni	OCF
Cicala	McCrossen's	Rybread
Coffee Cream & Dreams	Kelliann's	Santucci's
The Fairview	La Calaca Feliz	St. Stephen's Green
Fare	La Scala's Pronto	Thirsty Dice
Gabi	Little Pete's (has a tent)	Tela's
		Zorba's

\* Bar Hygge is also opening a small sit-down beer garden across the street at 1723 Fairmount Ave, with Bar Hygge take-out food to eat on-site.

**These Local Salons and Barber Shops are Now Open:**

Classic Barber, 1517 Spring Garden	Shear Perfection, 1535 Spring Garden
Sulimay's, 2333 Fairmount Ave.	Shear Excellence, 2019 Fairmount Ave
SNIP, 2052 Fairmount Ave.,	Civil Barbers, 1631 Wallace St.
Ou Salon, 2323 Fairmount Ave	

**You Can Buy PPE at:**

Luz Marina Montano Fashion Design, 1914 Fairmount Ave., [www.mmontano.com](http://www.mmontano.com), designer cloth masks, \$12 each or 5 for \$50. The owner, who hails from Colombia, South America, also provides custom sewing and fashions. 267-972-7328

Fairmount Hardware, 2011 Fairmount Ave 215-765-5820

**These Gyms and Fitness Centers are Now Open.**

Retro Fitness - 1500 Spring Garden St . (Walk ins) 570-591-1209

BPM Fitness - 1808 Spring Garden St. (Call for appt.) 215-515-2110

Culture Philly Gym - 1415 Melon St. (Call for appt.) 267-607-5883

J'aime Fitness - 2102 Brandywine St/ (1 on1 training) 610-357-6675

Anytime Fitness - 1640 Fairmount Ave (RSVP online) [anytimefitness.com](http://anytimefitness.com)

Yoga Habit - Book outdoor classes online [yogahabit.com](http://yogahabit.com)

Lumos Yoga & Barre - Outdoor classes (Call for appt.) 215-787-0700

**These local Businesses Provide To-Go Beer and Wine, and Some do Delivery:**

Stone's Beer & Beverage Market - 1701 Fairmount Ave

Bar Hygge - 1720 Fairmount Ave - Growlers and Wine to go

The Fairview - 601 N 21st street - 6 packs of beer

St. Stephen's Green- 1701 Green Street - 6 packs of beer

The Bishop's Collar - 2349 Fairmount Ave - 6 packs of beer

Fairmount Pizza - 2000 Fairmount Ave. - 6 packs of beer

City View Pizza - 1547 Spring Garden St. - 6 packs of beer

Old Nelson - 1500 Spring Garden - Craft beers and 6 packs

Parkway Deli - 2200 Spring Garden St. Growlers and 6 packs

**Beat the Heat with these Tasty Take-out Drinks**

St. Stephen's Green - 1701 Green St. - Frozen drinks - various flavors

The Bishop's Collar - 2349 Fairmount Ave - Frozen drinks - various flavors

Bar Hygge - 1720 Fairmount Ave - Lavender Lemonade for adults

Thirsty Dice 1624 Fairmount Ave - Ice cream shakes for adults

Fare - 2028 Fairmount Ave - Farmers Tonic or Fairmount Sunset

La Calaca Feliz - 2321 Fairmount Ave - Margaritas or Sangrias

The Fairview - 601 N 21st St. - Strawberry Mojitos or Margaritas

Green Soul – 600 N. Broad St. – Mango-Lychee Sangria & cocktails-to-go

**Gifts, Plants, Other:**

For great gifts, Ali’s Wagon, 2017 Fairmount Ave., is open for limited in store shopping plus shipping, or curbside pickup. (Appt online: [aliswagon.com](http://aliswagon.com))

Fairmount Hardware, 2011 Fairmount Ave. 215-765-5829

Plants Etc., 2313 Fairmount Ave. 215-236-3060

Cerulean Arts, 1355 Ridge Ave. (Appt online) [ceruleanarts.com](http://ceruleanarts.com)

Bookhaven, 2202 Fairmount Ave. 215-235-3226

**Physical Therapy, Health: Call to Schedule an Appointment**

Wallace and Nilan, 1714 Fairmount Ave. 267-606-6923

Vybe Urgent Care, 1500 Spring Garden St. 267-768-8288

Jefferson Health, 2100 Spring Garden St. 215-955-9555

Wellpoint, 2014 Fairmount Ave. 267-687-5655

**Pet Stores / Veterinary Care:**

Fairmount Pet Shoppe - 2024 Fairmount Ave 215-236-6080

Art Museum Veterinary Center - 1710 Fairmount Ave 215-982-1490

Fairmount Animal Hospital - 2315 Fairmount Ave 215-684-1439

**The 4 Bynum Brothers Restaurants (Including South Jazz Kitchen and Green Soul in Spring Garden) Have Joined Forces to Provide Meals For Front Line Workers**

**Through Their “The Hero Kitchen”**: The restaurants prepare individually packaged meals and deliver them to medical workers in area hospitals and nursing homes.

For more information or to make a donation, visit [southjazzkitchen.com](http://southjazzkitchen.com).

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## *Health:*

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**The FDA Continues to Warn Against (and Recall) Hand Sanitizers Containing Methyl Alcohol, Which Can Cause Serious Health Problems, Including Brands Sold by Walmart, Costco, and Other National Chains.** Click [here](#) for the up to date list of more than 75 such hand sanitizers.

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## *Assistance Programs:*

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**State Hazard Pay Grants Are Being Offered for Workers in Front Line Jobs:** The State is making hazard pay grants available to employers who have workers in high-risk front-line jobs. Employers can apply through DCED through July 31, for an extra \$3.00 an hour for employees making less than \$20 an hour. Click [here](#) for more information and to apply.

**Get Help with Student Financial Aid During the Pandemic:** Click [here](#) for tips.

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## *Entertainment:*

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**Citizens Bank Park is Hosting Drive-In Concerts:** The Phillies are teaming up with Live Nation to bring a four-week drive in concert series to the parking lot of Citizens Bank Park, starting Sunday August 16. Tickets will be sold as car passes good for 4 people. Go to [www.phillies.com/drivein](http://www.phillies.com/drivein) for more information, a list of the concerts, and to buy tickets. Tickets range from \$99.50 per carload to \$225. Sound will be transmitted on an FM radio signal. There will be constantly sanitized restrooms for mask wearing patrons.

**River Stroll:** Restaurants and a beer garden along the Delaware River are joining together to offer “River Stroll”. The group currently includes Spruce Street Harbor Park, Cherry Street Pier, and Race Street Pier. Patrons are encouraged to start at one pier and “stroll” along the river to the others. Spruce St. and Cherry Street require reservations. At Race Street, a daily check-in is required. Social distancing

and masks are mandatory. Visit [www.phillyriverstroll.com](http://www.phillyriverstroll.com) for more information and to make a reservation.

**For that Special Occasion, Hornblower/Spirit of Philadelphia Cruises on the Delaware River are Starting Up this Weekend with SafeCruise:** The company is offering lunch or dinner cruises (with entertainment) on the Delaware River, with social distancing. Go to [www.hornblower.com](http://www.hornblower.com) for more information.

**Fairmount Park Conservancy Has Issued a Digital Guide to “Discovering the Unknown” in Philadelphia’s Largest Park (2050 Acres):** Click [here](#) to access it. Discover interesting new hiking trails and other Park features. Wear a mask and observe social distancing.

**The Phillies Will Soon be Offering Fans a Chance to Buy A Cardboard Cutout of their Likeness To Affix to a Seat During a Televised Game, as No Fans are Yet Allowed in the Stadium:** The cost will be \$25 for season ticket holders, \$40 for the general public. Proceeds go to charity. Currently, they are featuring cutouts of health care workers, this week from Nemours Children’s Hospital and Jefferson Health. A photo is emailed, printed on a UV printer, and affixed to the cutout. The service is being provided by Color Reflections, the company that fabricated the Historic Spring Garden banners.

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*Other:*

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**Mayor Kenney Has Rebuffed the Administration’s Threat to Send Federal Troops to Any Cities Experiencing Continuing Unrest:** Federal agents have been sent by the White House to Portland, Oregon to quell protests and unrest, ostensibly under the guise of protecting federal monuments. They are now being sent to Chicago as well. Many allege that it is a gross abuse of power, and an illegal use of federal agents to deal with local City and State issues. In Portland, the agents were not identified as law enforcement officers, tear gassed protesters, and hauled protesters into unmarked rental vans. Pretty scary! Mayor Kenney says the City will oppose federal intervention here.

**The City began negotiations with the Parkway encampment leaders and other homeless advocates to close down the site.** (Last week's deadline for the occupants to vacate was postponed). The City has already placed some 40

residents of the encampment in other housing. The Mayor is mindful of the adverse effect the problem is having on the Fairmount Sports team, who are unable to use Von Colln Field because of the tents.

**In Anticipation of the Covid-19 Restrictions Continuing Through the Holiday Season, Walmart Has Announced that It Will Close Thanksgiving Day and Give its Employees a Bonus:** This year's holiday season will present novel conditions and challenges. *Get ahead of the curve and start your holiday shopping now, right here in the neighborhood!*

**For All You Bargain Hunters, Amazon Has Postponed Its "Prime Day" to Later in The Year on Account of the Crunch Brought About by the Pandemic.**

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### *Volunteer Opportunities*

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**Food Share needs 50+ drivers to deliver food to people in need tomorrow (Saturday 7/25/20). If you have a couple of hours to spare, please sign up, It's safe and easy. Various shifts available 9AM, 9:30AM or 10AM.**

[www.sharefoodprogram.org/volunteer/](http://www.sharefoodprogram.org/volunteer/)