



Cedar County COVID-19 Newsletter

May 22, 2020

Volume 1: Issue 3

STATUS OF THE CEDAR COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors are making a concentrated effort to reopen the Courthouse to the public. As the health, wellbeing and safety of both Cedar County employees and the Cedar County public is of the utmost importance, the goal is to reopen the building to the public after precautions have been put in place to minimize contact and ensure social distancing. With this in mind, the current goal is to open the Courthouse to the public during the week of June 8th. This date is subject to change based upon the progress and installation of safety enhancements and other precautions.

CEDAR COUNTY AUDITOR

Voting in person (absentee voting) continues to be available at

501 Lynn Street, Tipton due to the Courthouse being closed to the public.

The last day to vote in person is June 1st.
Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Monday to Friday
Saturday, May 30th from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If you have requested an absentee ballot, and intend to mail the ballot back to the Auditor's Office, the ballot **must** be postmarked by June 1, 2020.

Polling locations for the Primary Election on June 2, 2020 are as follows:

Cedar County Courthouse, 400 Cedar St., Tipton –

Cass/Center/Iowa/Rochester Townships and Tipton 1, 2, 3 Precincts

Durant Community Center, 606 5th Ave., Durant – Inland and Farmington/Sugar Creek Townships

Stanwood School Gym, 102 E North St., Stanwood – Dayton/Fairfield, Fremont/Red Oak, Linn/Pioneer, and Massillon/Springfield Townships

West Branch Town Hall, 113 North 1st St., West Branch – Gower/Springdale Township and West Branch 1 Precinct.

Please note, for those who will be voting at the Cedar County Courthouse, current courthouse policy states that all individuals entering the building will have their temperature taken. If your temperature is over 100 °F, the Auditor will be notified and alternate voting arrangements will be made in an effort to minimize the spread of any potential illness

Auditor Dauber is encouraging all voters to take advantage of the opportunity to vote by mail for safety precautions. Anyone with questions concerning the election should contact the Auditor's Office at 563-886-3168.

CEDAR COUNTY TRANSFER STATION

The Cedar County Transfer Station will reopen to the public on Tuesday, May 26, 2020. Operating hours will be as follows:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 am – 4:00pm
Thursday: 12:00pm – 4:00pm
1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month – 8:00am – 2:00pm

Payment for transfer station services must be made via cash or check, and all transactions will be completed through the window to allow for social distancing. There will be no public access to the office. The hours may be expanded as demand warrants. For more information, please call the Transfer station at 563-886-6437.

CEDAR COUNTY SHERIFF:

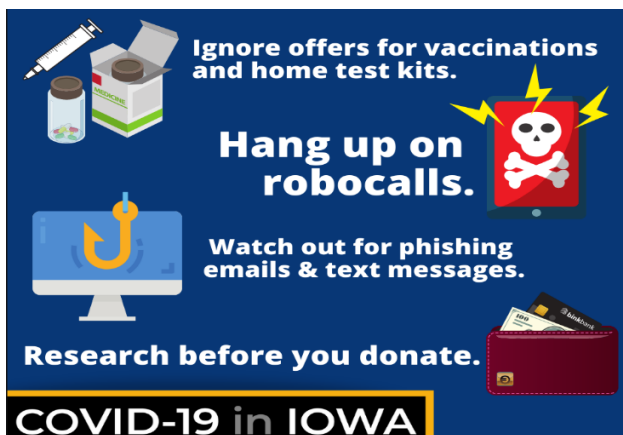
The Cedar County Sheriff is pleased to announce that the lobby of the Law Center has been reopened to the public for certain transactions that have been temporarily suspended due to the COVID-19 emergency. Cedar County residents can transact normal operations via the lobby window. It is recommended that residents visiting the Law Center wear a face mask. Individuals with sentenced mittimus can begin serving their sentences; if these sentences need to be rescheduled, individuals are encouraged to contact their attorney. Please note, inmate visiting is still restricted at this time. For questions, please call 563-886-2121.

CEDAR COUNTY CONSERVATION:

Upon issuance of a proclamation from Governor Reynolds, all Cedar County campgrounds reopened on May 8th. Camping is available to anyone who is able and willing to meet the following requirements:

- Only self-contained camper units, no tents, or campers without on board restroom facilities are allowed at this time.
- All modern restrooms, pit toilets, shelters, shower buildings and playgrounds remain CLOSED
- Visitors will not be allowed in the campgrounds, only those occupying the campsites
- Campfires at the individual campsites will be limited to campers occupying those campsites
- Campsite occupancy must at all times be less than ten (10) people per campsite
- Campers are expected to maintain proper social distancing of 6 feet at all times
- Campers must be able to PROVIDE THEIR OWN WATER as sites will not have access
- Communal picnic tables and grills are open for use at your own risk
- Boat ramps will continue to be open

Cedar County Conservation is preparing to provide additional accommodation to campers as the State of Iowa removes the remaining restrictions that have been put in place. In limited situations, some Cedar County Conservations services may not be ready when the State of Iowa allows them to resume. All campers are advised to follow the current public health recommendations. For more information, you may call the Conservation office at 563-886-6930.



We know that these are trying times for everyone. The following resources are available for Cedar County residents:

REPORT ABUSE

Child Abuse – If you suspect a child under the age of 18 is being abused or neglected:

1. If you believe that the child is in imminent danger, CALL 911 immediately
2. Call the Abuse Hotline at 1-800-362-2178, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - Be ready to provide identifying information and the whereabouts of the child
 - Unless you are a mandatory reporter, you may remain anonymous.

Dependent Abuse – Call the Abuse Hotline at 1-800-362-2178, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

YOUR LIFE IOWA - If you or a loved one are facing a problem with alcohol, drugs, gambling, mental health or suicidal thoughts, you're not alone. That is why the Iowa Department of Public Health has created YourLifelowa.org so Iowans can chat live, text, or call and get reliable information and treatment options, and find nearby help.

- Call: 855-581-8111
- Text: 855-895-8398

CEDAR COUNTY GENERAL ASSISTANCE

There are three kinds of assistance in Cedar County

- ▶ Emergency assistance for needy persons:
- ▶ Assistance for poor persons,
- ▶ Assistance for an extended nature.

For more information, call 563-886-1726

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Domestic Violence Intervention Program

1105 S. Gilbert Court

Iowa City, Ia. 52240

24/hr. Crisis Line: 1-800-373-1043

DISASTER DISTRESS HELPLINE – Provides immediate crisis counseling for people who are experiencing emotional distress related to any disaster, natural or man-made. 1-800-985-5990. You can also text TalkWithUS to 66746 for assistance.

IOWA LEGAL AID - Individuals with questions of a legal nature can call the COVID-19 Legal Information Hotline at 1-800-332-0419.

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT - Iowans who may qualify for unemployment due to COVID-19 or under the CARES Act can find information by calling: 1-866-239-0843

COMMUNITY ACTION OF EASTERN IOWA: Do you need help with food, utility bill assistance, crisis assistance, disaster assistance, or other help? Contact Community Action of Eastern Iowa at 563-324-3236

CHILD CARE COMPLAINT HOTLINE

If you have concerns regarding a specific child care provider or child care business that is not meeting Iowa regulations, call the Iowa Child Care Complaint Hotline at 1-844-786-1296

EASTERN IOWA MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY SERVICES – It's OK to ask for help!!

- 24-Hour Mobile Crisis Outreach & 24-Hour Crisis Line 1-844-430-0375
- 24 Hour Life Connections Peer Respite Support Line 1-516-688-7484
- MCSA Peer Line and Virtual Groups. Open 8am-5pm M-F 563-200-2742
- Life Connections Peer Line and Virtual Groups. M, T, Th, F: 5pm-10pm, Sat-Sun 12pm-5pm 563-357-6352
- Vera French Peer Drop In- 8am-4pm M-F 563-322-5276
- 24 Hour Crisis Stabilization Residential 563-396-3017

FACING FOOD INSECURITY? Contact Cedar County General Assistance at 563-886-1726. Food boxes may be available. If you are in Durant, call 563-785-6831 for information on food boxes.

RESOURCES FOR PORK PRODUCERS -

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship announced a Resource Coordination Center to help provide technical resources to livestock producers impacted by processing plant closures. This is a coordinated effort with the Iowa Pork Producers Assoc., the Iowa Pork Industry Center, and ISU Extension and Outreach. Iowa livestock producers can call the RCC at (515) 725-1005, Monday - Friday between 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., or fill out a help form anytime at iowafarmerhelp.com

UTILITY SERVICES

The Iowa Utilities Board issued an Order on March 27, 2020, that restricted the disconnection of utility service to any customers by all electric and natural gas utilities, including municipal, cooperative, and investor-owned, and all investor-owned water utilities until the public health emergency is lifted by Gov. Reynolds. The order also strongly encouraged all water utilities to cease shutoffs of service for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, in 2020, income eligible Iowans have until May 31 to apply for limited financial heating assistance through the LIHEAP program. Contact Community Action of Eastern Iowa for assistance 563-324-3236

REFUGEE ALLIANCE OF CENTRAL IOWA

COVID-19 ELL Help Line is available Monday – Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm at 1-877-558-2609.

FOOD BANK SERVICES

The Department of Human Services (DHS) has made several modifications to its food security programs due to the COVID-19 crisis. For more information, or to apply for SNAP benefits, call 1-855-944-3663.

This newsletter is published biweekly by the Cedar County Emergency Management Agency to provide information, updates and resources regarding COVID-19 for our citizens. The contacts contained herein are being provided on an informational basis; we are not responsible for the content or services provided. Information is believed to be current as of the printing date of 05/20/2020.