



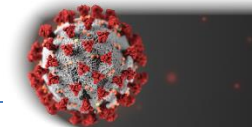
# Calhoun County

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## *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response—Situation Update*

**3/17/20, 1:30 p.m.**

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### What's New?

County and Court offices and facilities closed to the public from March 17-April 10 and will continue with employees critical to providing essential services and functions.

The March 19, 2020 Board of Commissioners meeting has been cancelled.

Treasurer Wensauer and EMS Director Dunham requested on March 17 that the Governor enact an extension from March 31 to May 29 the deadline to redeem foreclosed properties.

On March 16 Gov. Whitmer signed an order that limits bars and restaurants to carryout orders only. It also closed cafes, coffee houses, bars, taverns, brewpubs, distilleries, clubs, movie theaters, indoor and outdoor performance venues, gymnasiums, fitness centers, recreation centers, indoor sports facilities, indoor exercise facilities, exercise studios, spas and casinos through March 30. The order does not include barbershops, hair salons, nail salons or funeral homes.

On March 16 Whitmer also signed orders expanding unemployment benefits to help people impacted by changes the coronavirus has caused, and lifting weight restrictions for vehicles carrying items that will be used to slow the spread of coronavirus.

On March 16, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer informed the U.S. Small Business Administration that she is seeking an Economic Injury Disaster Loan Declaration for the state and has initiated the process to receive the declaration from SBA. That application process is expected to be completed this week.

Finally on March 16, the Governor signed an Executive Order banning through April 5 all indoor events that have more than 50 people This ban does not include health care facilities, workplaces not open to the public, the state legislature, mass transit, grocery stores, and the performance of agricultural or construction work.

All K-12 schools remain closed through April 5.

At this time there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases within Calhoun County.

## Response Areas and Current Strategies:

### COMMUNICATIONS/EDUCATION:

#### 1) Internal Coronavirus Response Leadership

- Current Strategies: Continuing to add updates and reference documents to the internal MS Teams Channels. Added all countywide elected officials and presiding judges to the MS Teams group. The next conference call is Wednesday, March 18, at 11:00 a.m.

#### 2) Community Response

- Current Strategies: Health Dept. continues to convene healthcare provider phone group; K. Scott and E. Pessell to lead phone conference discussion along with BC City Manager Rebecca Fleury for special AMSA meeting Wed., 3/18, 1:00 p.m.

#### 3) Website

- Current Strategies: [www.calhouncountymi.gov](http://www.calhouncountymi.gov) website home page is main source and includes latest counts on cases and testing.

#### 4) Educating Employees

- Current Strategies: 3/16 building closure press release cc'd to all employees, with link to additional info on our website regarding payroll, etc. FAQ sheet still being developed.

## Reinforcing Best Practices for Cleanliness and Safety:

#### 1) Individual Workspaces and Offices

- Current Strategies: HR distributed personal hand sanitizers to all county departments. Encouraging departments to continue to use disinfecting wipes for workstations .

#### 2) Public Spaces

- Current Strategies: "Wash Your Hands" posters in county buildings. Hand Sanitizing wall mounts and pedestals still backordered. Contract janitorial service and facilities staff have increased levels and frequency of routine environmental cleaning on surfaces and in restrooms. Digital displays also reinforcing personal hygiene.

### 3) Encouraging Employees to Stay Home When Sick

- Current Strategies: Countywide leadership directed to send sick employees, and contractors, home; new “Health Emergency Leave Policy” negotiated with most union groups and would provide up to 80 hours paid leave for anyone out sick during COVID-19 pandemic period and ability to borrow up to 120 hours for child care and other stay at home needs. Not expecting widespread need with all employees being paid during county office closure to the public.

### 4) Telecommuting Options

- Current Strategies: County Administration and IT available upon request to address IT infrastructure needs for working remotely. B.Wilcox is backup contact for S.Mason for phone and central services requests and issues.

### 5) Social Distancing Measures

- Current Strategies: The Judiciary, elected officials and department heads have determined plans for carrying out essential functions and providing services to the public while limiting in-person visits and meetings. Steps are also encouraged to maximize physical space between employees working in the same workplace.

### Limiting Large Events, Public Gatherings and Work Travel:

- Current Strategies: Restricting Employee travel through April. Encouraging departments to cancel non-critical board and committee meetings and events. 3/19/20 regular BOC meeting has been cancelled. Recyclerama and recycling centers are closed temporarily. Parks remain open.

### Updating COOP Plans to the COVID-19 Threat

- Current Strategies: 3/5/20 BOC Administrative Response Resolution adopted. Health Dept. and Countywide COOP Annexes for Pandemics updated for COVID-19. County departments requested to track all COVID-19 response related expenses; no indication yet that reimbursement funding is available.