



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 03.18.20

(Information in [blue](#) has not previously been disseminated)

[The City of Edwardsville continues to monitor updates from multiple agencies on the status of the COVID-19 outbreak. As of Wednesday afternoon, Illinois is reporting 288 confirmed cases with one case now reported in Madison County. Below are some updates regarding City of Edwardsville response to the outbreak:](#)

City Council and Committee/Board Meetings

Effective today, City Council meetings and committee meetings will be closed to the public under authority granted by Gov. Pritzker's proclamation modifying some aspects of the Open Meetings Act.

- [City meetings are on the same schedule however we will allow elected and appointed officials to participate via video conference or teleconference depending on the capabilities.](#)
- [Residents who wish to provide public input are directed to:](#)
 - publiccomment@cityofedwardsville.com
 - [Public comment Voicemail 618-307-1715](tel:618-307-1715)
 - [Messages go to the Clerk and Deputy Clerk along with IT and Legal.](#)
 - [Messages will be played/read before the appropriate board/committee.](#)
- The City Council meetings will continue to be streamed on Facebook and transmitted over ECTV Channel 993.
- The City will provide recordings of each meeting that will be available for check out at the Edwardsville Public Library or electronic copies can be requested from the City Clerk's office.
- [A public hearing on TIF 2 remains scheduled as an open meeting at Edwardsville City Hall, 118 Hillsboro Ave, on Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00 p.m. All attendees, upon entry, will be subject to a thermal temperature check, asked to wash their hands, and asked to maintain social distancing of 6-10 feet.](#)

Economic Development

- [Multiple offers are coming to the City for donations of food and goods.](#)
- [Donations from businesses and/or individuals should be coordinated through Walt Williams, City of Edwardsville Economic Development, at 618-692-7533.](#)

Public Works

As a reminder, public access to the Public Works Building, 200 East Park, is limited to the front vestibule. Visitors may drop off materials, building permits, plans, etc., within the vestibule. Payments will not be accepted. Payments must be made online or placed within the exterior drop box at City Hall. Permit applications are available online at the City's website www.cityofedwardsville.com.

- [Due to an increased demand and subsequent shortage of toilet paper, increased use and flushing of non-flushable materials such as baby wipes, napkins and paper towels is a major concern.](#)
 - [Residents are strongly urged to pay extra attention to what they are using and flushing.](#)
 - [Do not flush anything other than toilet paper. Products billed as "flushable" baby wipes can still create significant problems in the sewer system.](#)
- [A news release related to some St. Louis County municipalities indicated that Republic Services is suspending yard waste pickup, creating some confusion here. Yard waste collection in Edwardsville remains in effect until further notice.](#)
- Trash pickups will stay on their regular schedule. Republic Services has developed contingency plans in the event of significant staffing shortages.
- Commercial inspections remain active until further notice.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

The Edwardsville EOC will be staffed from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday until further notice. The hours will expand to meet operational challenges. The EOC has been operating for the past week, preparing documents, checking City supplies and drafting policies as the COVID-19 pandemic triggers local, state and national mandates. Updates are sent daily to local media outlets. They are posted on the City's website www.cityofedwardsville.com/coronavirus in real time. You can also find helpful links to other sites with an enormous amount of information from state, national and international agencies.

Police Department

To minimize inherent risks to our officers and the public that are presented with COVID 19, some changes for reporting procedures to Edwardsville PD have been implemented.

- [If any bars or restaurants violate the Governor's proclamation regarding closing, they may be charged with reckless conduct and could lose their liquor license.](#)
- On a temporary basis, the EPD will be taking some reports over the telephone.
- If you need police services that are non-emergency in nature, please call the Edwardsville Police Department at (618) 656-2131.
- If it is determined that a telephone report can be made, a police officer will take your report over the telephone.
- If an officer is not immediately available, you will be called back as soon as possible.
- If a call for service does require an officer's response to a residence or business, the reporting party may be asked to step outside of the residence or business to speak with the officer to create a safe, social distance between the officer and the reporting party.

Fire Department

The Edwardsville Fire Department has not yet seen a large influx in its number of emergency medical calls. The Department continues planning with other agencies to coordinate overlap if there is a surge of calls in this area. Also of note:

- The Department is suspending car seat installations until further notice.
- [For assistance with Child Safety Seat installation instruction and tips:](#)
 - [Go to www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)
 - [Scroll to the middle of the webpage, find the tab “Ultimate Car Seat Guide” and click](#)
 - [Scroll to the bottom of the webpage, find the tab “Installing” and click](#)
 - [Follow and read all pages and view all videos, in order, for installation instructions](#)
- [For assistance with fitment of harness in Child Safety seats or seatbelt usage:](#)
 - [Go to www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)
 - [Scroll to the middle of the webpage, find the tab “Ultimate Car Seat Guide” and click](#)
 - [Scroll to the bottom of the webpage, find the tab “Right Fit” and click](#)
 - [Follow and read all the pages and view all videos, in order, for guidelines for each use](#)

City Hall/City Clerks

As a reminder, the City of Edwardsville is suspending all disconnections for water services for all of our customers effective immediately. The order remains in effect until May 1, 2020.

- To protect our employees and the general public, we are no longer accepting in person payments at City Hall.
- [City Hall is still providing a complementary certified birth record \(birth certificate\).](#)
 - [To obtain additional certified copies, please complete the online form and return it the Office of City Clerk, along with a copy of your government issued ID and payment. We will process your request and your certified copies will then be mailed.](#)
 - [You may return the form, copy of your ID, and payment via the U.S. Mail or you may utilize the drop box located on the exterior of City Hall, located at 118 Hillsboro.](#)
 - [The first certified copy is \\$9.25. Each additional copy is \\$2.25. Payment may be made by either check or money order.](#)
 - [If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 692-7500.](#)
 - [Customers may continue to pay their utility bill online, over the phone, use the drop box outside City Hall, located at 118 Hillsboro, or mail payments through the U.S. Mail.](#)
 - [Learn more at www.cityofedwardsville.com.](http://www.cityofedwardsville.com)
- The City will waive late payment penalties, processing fees for payments made over the phone or online.

Parks and Recreation

- **All City of Edwardsville parks remain closed until further notice.**
- All current Parks and Rec programs are suspended through Monday, March 30th.
- [The Edwardsville Municipal band has suspended its 2020 season until further notice.](#)

If any further postponement of future programming is needed, the Edwardsville Parks and Recreation staff will provide necessary announcements. You can find these official announcements on our website (<https://www.cityofedwardsville.com/188/Parks-Recreation>) or our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/EdwardsvilleParksAndRec/>)

Edwardsville Public Library

The Edwardsville Public Library (EPL) is closed, but offering limited, modified services through roadside pickup concurrently March 17-March 29.

Please check our website(<https://www.edwardsvillelibrary.org/>), Facebook, or call the library (618-692-7556) for updates.

- E-books, movies, and music, are always available online through our website and through free apps. Visit <https://www.edwardsvillelibrary.org/ebooks-and-more> and call the library if you have any questions or need help setting up your account.

R.W. Welle, Emergency Management Coordinator Hal Patton, Mayor, City of Edwardsville