



CITY OF FOREST CITY

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOREST CITY ORGANIZES PLANS AND PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING CORONAVIRUS

Forest City – On March 4, 2020 the City of Forest City met with various entities to discuss plans and procedures pertaining to the COVID-19 virus. A few of the entities were: FC Schools, Waldorf University, YMCA, Mercy One Clinic, Forest Plaza Assisted Living, Good Samaritan Center, Winnebago Industries, 3M, Mosaic, Public Health, City of Forest City, and others. Each entity has plans for monitoring employees or students, as well as the work that is necessary. At some point businesses, schools, and the university may temporarily close their doors. If this occurs, media will be notified.

The City of Forest City will post local information on the home page of the website – www.cityofforestcity.com as well as on its social media sites and local radio (KIOW FM107.3).

The chain of command is the Governor, Public Health, Mayor and Council. We are all on the same page with keeping everyone safe. The point of this is not to cause panic, but simply to fact find and know each other's plan.

For facts and information about the coronavirus go to

Iowa Department of Public Health <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

What can you do now to minimize your risk? We recommend practicing basic hygiene -

- If you are sick, stay home
- Cover your cough
- Sneeze into your elbow and not your hand
- Wash your hands
- Keep 6' of separation from others
- Don't shake hands and stay away from large crowds, especially if you are in a high-risk category

Our City plan includes the possibility of closing City Hall to the public. If this occurs, payments can be placed in the outside drop box, or you may use online bill pay or pay by phone with credit cards. Our staff will continue to work, answer phones, and keep the city running, the public will not be allowed into City Hall during this time in order to limit the interaction with the public. It is also possible that City Council meetings may be conducted online using Go to Meeting. We will keep the public and media informed if these steps are taken.

"In conclusion, I want the public to be assured we are taking precautions, planning, and will be adapting to changing conditions. We want to do everything possible to keep our citizens safe and healthy," says Mayor Ruitter.

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