

March 16, 2020 10:00 a.m.  
Contact: Iris Hill  
ihill@townofedistobeach.com



## Edisto Beach COVID-19 Update 1

The health and public safety of our citizens and employees are always our priority. This virus is known to be very contagious and taking social distancing measures is essential to mitigating the spread in our community. As a proactive measure, the Mayor has declared a local state of emergency for the Town of Edisto Beach. We have a number of cancellations and closures below; please review carefully. Per CDC guidance, we recommend all businesses keep occupancy at below 50% of normal operations and encourage take out service only.

### Cancellations

1. Trash operations will continue on normal schedule as long as Colleton County landfill remains open.
2. Public Safety will respond to calls, but expect extra questions from Dispatch to screen for COVID symptoms for the safety of the public and our officers. Please use the Dispatch phone number (843-549-7144) rather than walk-in for non-emergency questions. The station will be closed to the public for tours and drop-ins. Officers may respond to complaints of nonviolent incidents that have occurred in the past with a telephone call to the complainant.
3. All Town meetings scheduled for March are postponed.
4. Town Hall will close today at 4:30 pm and move to virtual, phone, and dropbox operations until further notice.
  - a. We encourage all citizens to delay all nonessential business and walk-in customer service. We will not issue golf cart permits during this time.
  - b. Building permits and business license applications are available online on the Town website homepage. Call the building department at 843-869-2505 Option 4 and staff can assist you over the phone in filling out the forms which can then be mailed or dropped off at the dropbox. Building permits/inspections will be handled on a case by case basis and can be scheduled by calling the building department at 843-869-2505 Option 4.
  - c. Parking and Court tickets can only be paid online or by mail to 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach, SC 29438.
  - d. Payments can be made via credit card or through the drop box located outside at Town Hall or by mail at 2414 Murray Street, Edisto Beach, SC 29438. We will accept credit card payments over the phone during the declared state of emergency.
  - e. Utility service questions can be addressed by calling 843-869-2505 Option 3.
5. Private events already scheduled need to consult with the Special Events Coordinator as additional cleaning requirements need to be addressed.
6. The restrooms at Bay Creek Park will be closed.
7. Municipal Court will be canceled March 26<sup>th</sup>.
8. There will be no inspections in occupied structures. Unoccupied inspections will continue as normal.

### Medical Testing

If you are experiencing life-threatening symptoms including respiratory distress, please call 911.

For all other symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough or shortness of breath, we encourage you to take advantage of the MUSC Health Virtual Care telehealth service. MUSC Health is offering COVID-19 screenings free of charge to South Carolina residents experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms located in South Carolina. Non-residents may use the service but may be charged for the visit and the panel. All MUSC screenings must be initiated online through their telehealth service: <https://campaigns.muschealth.org/virtual-care/index.html>. No walk-up traffic is accepted at the drive- through testing location.

### Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- ✓ Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- ✓ Stay home when you are sick.
- ✓ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- ✓ Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
  - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
  - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).
- ✓ Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

### About Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

All citizens are encouraged to review the information below and make plans for you and your family in the event of disruptions to your daily routine.

- o [About Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- o [How it spreads](#)
- o [Symptoms](#)
- o [Prevention & treatment](#)
- o [Testing](#)
- o [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- o [South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Latest Updates](#)
- o [Centers for Disease Control Latest Updates](#)

### Information for Travel

- o [Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel](#)
- o [FAQ for travelers](#)

Beginning March 17, 2020, Town Hall will be **closed** to the public and all administrative Town business will be temporarily conducted online until **Wednesday April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020**.

All Town phone lines and emails are functioning normally, please continue to contact staff as normal for your business needs.

**Police, fire, and sanitation services will operate normally. Call 911 if you have an emergency.**

Below are helpful links/information until we move back to normal operations:

Golf Cart Permits will not be issued until **April 1, 2020**.

Pay Traffic or Parking Tickets: <https://www.townofdistobeach.com/payments>

For other ticket information, go to the Municipal Court Page  
<https://www.townofdistobeach.com/municipal-court>.

Building Permit Applications and Forms:

[https://www.townofdistobeach.com/sites/default/files/uploads/building\\_department/building-permit.pdf](https://www.townofdistobeach.com/sites/default/files/uploads/building_department/building-permit.pdf)

Completed permit applications, along with all required supporting documentation can be emailed to Patrick Brown at [pbrown@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:pbrown@townofdistobeach.com) and [mgreen@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:mgreen@townofdistobeach.com). For questions regarding permit requirements email Patrick or call the building department at 843-869-2505 Option 4.

Business License Applications: <https://www.townofdistobeach.com/building/licensing>

To submit a business license application, please email completed form to Margaret Green at [mgreen@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:mgreen@townofdistobeach.com) or call 843-869-2505 Option 4 for assistance in completing the forms.

Water Bills: Sign up for online pay and automatic draft by contacting Sara Simpson at 843-869-2505 x 201 for assistance. Payment can still be mailed or drop off payment at Town Hall in the drop box located out front. To discuss your bill, email Sara at [ssimpson@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:ssimpson@townofdistobeach.com) or call 843-869-2505 Option 3

Accounts Payable or Receivable questions can be directed to Krystal Parsons at [kparsons@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:kparsons@townofdistobeach.com) or 843-869-2505 Option 5.

Questions regarding Town Council can be sent to Deborah Hargis at [dhargis@townofdistobeach.com](mailto:dhargis@townofdistobeach.com) or 843-869-2505 Option 6.