



# Terrace Leaves

## COVID-19 SPECIAL EDITION

March • April 2020

### *A Message From the Acting Mayor*



The Coronavirus, or COVID-19, has affected nearly every aspect of our daily lives and I want you to know that your City officials and staff are doing everything possible to keep our community safe. City Hall is currently closed to the public as a precaution, but we are always here to help at 630-941-8300, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The City of Oakbrook Terrace Police Department is open 24 hours a day to serve and protect our citizens. The non-emergency number is 630-941-8320. As always, for any emergency or when you need to see an officer, please call 911. City of Oakbrook Terrace police officers continue to work round-the-clock to be there for any citizen in need. Our Police Department lobby is closed to the public at this time, however, provisions have been made for emergency access.

Please be aware, too, that although our Administrative, Police Department and Public Services staff members are working at City Hall and in our Police Station, our Building & Zoning staff members are working remotely. Due to the severity of this situation, we will not be able to process any Building & Zoning applications, permit fees or inspections until further notice.

Some of our local businesses are still open and many restaurants offer takeout and delivery service. Please help these local businesses by patronizing them whenever possible. The financial well-being of our community, in part, depends on the sales tax dollars that Oakbrook Terrace businesses generate.

I have declared a State of Emergency for our community and I will keep you updated as our plans unfold. We know that the spread of COVID-19 has created difficult times for many of our residents and businesses, but together, we can work to keep everyone safe. The new guidelines for social distancing and non-essential businesses recently set out by the Governor were developed with the counsel of medical professionals and we ask that every member of our community adhere to these guidelines.

Social distancing is crucial to halt the spread, since COVID-19 can travel through air. We know that many businesses must continue to operate to maintain the health of our residents, but if at all possible, avoid unnecessary trips and shelter at home to avoid contact with others who may be infected. Some people may not be aware yet that they have it.

We hope that this Special Edition *Terrace Leaves* newsletter will answer some of your questions and provide you with useful information for staying safe. A list of websites providing more information can be found on page 3.

I understand that many people are frightened about the progress of COVID-19 and I want to be here for you to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to call me at my direct line: 630-834-1416. For more FAQs, please visit our website, [www.oakbrookterrace.net](http://www.oakbrookterrace.net), where we will continue to update you as new information about COVID-19 unfolds. Also, we will be introducing City of Oakbrook Terrace social media where you can access breaking information more quickly. I thank you for your patience and ask that everyone be as safe as possible.

*Sincerely,*  
*Acting Mayor Paul Esposito*

## What is the City Doing for Our Residents?

- To ease the financial strain, the City will be waiving one month's water billing for March/April usage, which is billed on April 30.
- The City is also waiving any current penalties for water billing.
- Although residents who reside in Oakbrook Terrace, but receive water from Oak Brook, such as in Berkshire, will not have their next water bill waived, you may bring your Oak Brook water bill to Oakbrook Terrace City Hall for reimbursement at a future date. We will keep you updated about this in a future issue of the *Terrace Leaves* newsletter.



## COVID-19 SPECIAL EDITION

### What to Do if you Think You Might Be Sick

#### Recommendations from the CDC

If you are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 or if you are a resident in a community where there is ongoing spread of COVID-19



and develop symptoms of COVID-19, call your healthcare provider and tell them about your symptoms and your exposure. They

will decide whether you need to be tested, but keep in mind that there is no treatment for COVID-19 and people who are mildly ill may be able to isolate and care for themselves at home.

People at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider early, even if their illness is mild.

Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes appear to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

#### Warning Signs

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include\*:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

\*This list is not all inclusive. Consult your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

### How to Protect Yourself

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, the CDC recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread.



- 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.
- 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
- The 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).

### Does Coronavirus Live on Surfaces?

New research published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* suggests that coronavirus can live for up to three days on some surfaces, such as plastic and steel. Experts believe the chances are low of becoming infected by those surfaces, since the virus disintegrates over time. COVID-19 also lives on cardboard, but only

for 24 hours. Researchers have also found that when suspended in smaller droplets, the virus can remain suspended for approximately one half hour. The study also indicated that the virus that lingers in the air is not at high enough concentrations to infect someone unless they are also near an infected person.

## Additional Resources

*More COVID-19 information can be found at:*

**Centers for Disease Control**  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**World Health Organization**  
[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

**Illinois Dept. of Public Health**  
[www.dph.illinois.gov](http://www.dph.illinois.gov)

**DuPage County Health Dept.**  
[www.dupagehealth.org](http://www.dupagehealth.org)

**City of Oakbrook Terrace**  
[www.oakbrookterrace.net](http://www.oakbrookterrace.net)  
630-941-8300

**DuPage County Community Resource Information System**  
For food and supply needs  
[dupagecris.org](http://dupagecris.org)  
630-407-6500

**State of Illinois COVID-19 site**  
[www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus](http://www2.illinois.gov/sites/coronavirus)

## Who is Most at Risk?

Cases of COVID-19 continue to rise worldwide; researchers have learned that older adults may be particularly susceptible to the respiratory illness.

"The data coming out of China continues to say that the people who are at higher risk for severe disease and death are those who are older and with underlying health conditions," said Nancy Messonnier, M.D., director of the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases at the CDC. (Source: AARP)

## How to Help Seniors

If you know a senior who may be at risk, the best way you can help them is to offer to do their shopping, pharmacy trips and other necessary errands.

To help them avoid the isolation of staying home, consider giving them a tutorial on FaceTime, Skype, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and other social media venues.

Checking on seniors regularly is also important to be sure they are not exhibiting symptoms and unaware of the signs.

## COVID-19 and Your Pets

*Below is a list of answers to frequently asked questions and concerns about pets and COVID-19*

### Do any pets have the virus?

- According to the CDC, no animals in the U.S. have been identified with the coronavirus. There is one reported "weak positive" result on a dog in Hong Kong whose owner tested positive for the virus. The weak positive result could be from an infection, environmental contamination, cross-reactivity, or problems with the test itself. Officials report the dog has no clinical signs of the illness and is currently in quarantine.

### Can pets get or transmit coronavirus?

- The CDC and several international health organizations have not expressed concern about transmitting the virus to and from pets. Domestic animals are not considered at risk for contracting the virus.

### Can the virus be spread through pet food and products?

- There is no evidence to support the transmission of the virus on products through the shipping process and there are no reported cases in the U.S. associated with imported goods of any kind. Most U.S. food products are produced domestically and none of them contain ingredients originating in China.



### Could there be a shortage of stuff I need for my pet?

- The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the FDA are working to identify any potential supply shortages. No animal drug or medical supply companies have reported any shortages, however, there have been some claims of supply chain disruptions which could eventually lead to issues

### What should I do if I am sick or tested positive?

- If you are sick, minimize the contact you have with your pet. Be diligent in washing your hands before and after handling your pet, touching their food, and managing their supplies. Hygiene in and around the house is always important, but more so now than ever. Clean commonly used areas with disinfectant spray or wipes. And if you see any changes in your pet's health, consult your vet right away.

*Continued page 4*



# CITY OF OAKBROOK TERRACE

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## COVID-19 SPECIAL EDITION

### The City's Commitment to Our Residents and Businesses

The City is committed to doing everything possible to keep our community members safe. City Hall will be closed to the public until further notice, but we are here to help you and would be happy to answer any questions you may have at 630-941-8300. Also, our Police Department is open 24 hours a day. We will keep you updated as we learn more about this new virus and how to stay safe.

### COVID-19 and Your Pets

(Continued from page 3)

#### What can I do to prepare for an emergency?

- You should always include your pets in any worst-case emergency preparedness planning. At a minimum, you should have at least an additional two-week supply of food, supplies and medicine on hand. If you're quarantined, you'll need to spend 14 days at home.

(Source: Kriser's)

More information about pets and COVID-19 can be found at the American Veterinary Medical Association website: [www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)

## Phone Numbers

### For City Services:

POLICE	Emergency.....	911
	Information.....	630-941-8320
FIRE EMERGENCY.....		911
MAYOR	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 208
CITY CLERK.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 206
CITY ADMINISTRATOR.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 207
ASSISTANT TO THE MAYOR & ADMINISTRATOR	.....	630-941-8300, EXT. 213
ADMINISTRATION.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 201
BUILDING & ZONING.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 209
CODE ENFORCEMENT.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 265
PUBLIC SERVICES.....		630-941-1651
WATER BILLING.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 242
SPECIAL EVENTS.....		630-941-8300, EXT. 201
OBT PARK DISTRICT.....		630-627-6100
YORK CENTER PARK DISTRICT.....		630-629-0886

### SPECIAL EDITION: March/April 2020 City of Oakbrook Terrace

Acting Mayor Paul Esposito  
 City Clerk Michael Shadley  
 City Administrator Amy Marrero

Ward III: Ald. Robert Przychodni  
 Ald. Robert Rada

Ward II: Ald. Frank Vlach  
 Ald. Dennis Greco

Ward I: Ald. Paul Esposito  
 Ald. Charlie Barbari

### Monthly Meetings:

City Council — 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 7 p.m.  
 Planning & Zoning Commission — 1st & 3rd Tues., 6 p.m.  
 Police Commission — 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
 Police Pension Board — 2nd Monday of the quarter

**CITY HALL HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm**