

Dear Haworth Neighbor:

Some positive news – and a note of caution. Your Mayor and Council want to bring you the latest information on the COVID-19 virus – and provide you with some perspective on the most recent news reports. There is some indication that our collective efforts are showing signs of mitigating the spread of the virus. This cannot be taken as a signal to relax our vigilance. Clearly, sheltering at home, avoiding clustering in groups of any size, and maintaining social distance are working – and we must redouble our commitment to continuing to do in the coming days and weeks. This will be increasingly difficult as we wish to be with family during the holidays, as warm weather tempts to walk or ride with our friends, as we get tired of the same four walls – but we have to remember that, as Governor Cuomo said on Wednesday, “[i]t has only been 37 days,” and we have a hopeful future.

So, continue to follow best practices – no matter how hard – we owe it to all our friends and neighbors – and to ourselves.

CURRENT SITUATION IN HAWORTH:

As of 8:00 pm Thursday, April 9, we have 17 confirmed positive cases. All have followed the established protocols for testing, treatment, and separation either at home or in the hospital. We wish all a speedy recovery.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

- ! The testing facilities at Newbridge and Bergen Community College will be closed this Sunday and then return to their regular schedules;
- ! The Governor by Executive Order has extended the Public Health emergency for another 30 days – all restrictions will continue to apply.
- ! The Governor also signed Executive Order 122 requiring, among other things, that both employees and customers must wear masks or other face coverings at all essential retail establishments and industries. The entire order can be found [here](#). Relevant portions of the executive order have been shared with the essential retail establishments in Haworth.

SUMMARY THOUGHTS:

These have been trying times – but we can be proud of how Haworth has responded. We thank all of you – our first responders, our professional staff, our volunteers, and our residents – for your support and cooperation. Together we will prevail – stay firm, stay, stay home, stay well – Haworth needs you.

Please visit <http://www.haworthnj.org> to enjoy the video of the “Clap Out” for our frontline healthcare professionals and first responders that took place in Haworth earlier this week.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM BOROUGH DEPARTMENTS:

TRASH, RECYCLING, AND YARD DEBRIS PICK-UP:

Yard debris pick-up will begin Monday April 13, 2020. We ask all residents to place their yard debris at the curb in a barrel or recyclable lawn/leaf bag. Due to our trash contractor experiencing staffing shortages, some resident’s yard debris collection may not occur until Tuesday. Therefore, we urge all residents to have their yard debris out on Monday and have patience if it is not collected until Tuesday. All other trash and recycling pick-up will continue as scheduled.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HAWORTH VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS:

The spread of the COVID-19 virus presents us with challenging times and limited resources of both personnel and equipment. Rest assured that the Haworth Volunteer Ambulance Corps (HVAC) stands ready to provide the most effective and prompt response to our residents.

The following guidelines are designed to assist you in getting you or a family member the help that is needed.

LIFE-THREATENING CONDITIONS: If you or a family member are experiencing a sudden elevation or intensity of symptoms – for example, increased difficulty in breathing or severe chest or abdominal pain – particularly if having previously tested positive for the virus – immediately call 911. Be sure to answer all of the dispatcher’s questions fully and accurately.

EMERGENT, INCREASING, OR SUSPECTED SYMPTOMS: With suspected or emergent symptoms – an increase in temperature, chills, shortness of breath – call your personal physician or telemedicine provider. Our local hospitals such as Englewood and Hackensack are providing telemedicine services for those who do not have, or cannot reach, their physician.

If your doctor or telemedicine provider instructs you to call 911, be sure to give the dispatch operator thorough and accurate information – for example, report your temperature or indicate that your provider has only suggested that you have your oxygen tested. This will allow the dispatcher to let us know your specific needs so we can provide the necessary service.

IN SUMMARY: These are stressful times. Resources – personnel and equipment – are stretched to their limits. We must all do our part to avoid the unnecessary use of scarce resources and the placing of excessive demands on our HVAC volunteers. This is by no means a recommendation that we ignore or not respond to symptoms. It is a recommendation that we follow the guidelines presented above. For more details please visit the CDC’s website, which includes a survey for self-checking your symptoms to assess your condition: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE:

IMPORTANT ADVISORY AND UPDATE RE: PARK CLOSURES, SOCIAL DISTANCING, GATHERINGS:

As noted in last week’s update, Flats Road (the Reservoir trail) is closed and barricades were placed at both entrances to the area. Due to the continued congregating of people in the area notwithstanding the closure, more prominent barriers have been established so that there is no confusion as to where the closure of the area begins. The police are, and will be, patrolling the area more frequently and urge all residents to comply with social distancing policy on all Borough and public property. In addition to dispersing any groups violating the social distancing policy, the police will be issuing summonses to people parking their cars in the spots along Lakeshore Drive (marked by orange cones) by the Suez/United Water building.

All Borough parks remain closed until further notice. Residents are urged to comply with the closures and policies for the benefit of everyone.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE SOMETHING – In the event that you observe any behavior that you believe is in violation of any Borough laws or social distancing policy, you are encouraged to contact the Police Department at (201) 384-1900, which will connect you to the Bergen County Dispatch Center in Mahwah who will promptly relay your call to our officers. Calling the above number is the fastest way to get an officer onsite to address an issue and is much more effective than posting concerns to various social media sites and/or engaging in a personal confrontation, which is never recommended.

HAWORTH SENIOR SHOPPERS:

We continue offering assistance to our senior *and* IMMUNO-COMPROMISED residents for the foreseeable future. Email Councilwoman Heather Wasser at wasser@haworthnj.org or call Suzanne Zampetti at (201) 920-5504 to request assistance if shopping is dangerous/difficult for you for any reason.

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR NEW JERSEYANS:

Senator Booker's office published a COVID-19 resource guide that provides a useful summary of information on a broad range of topics. The complete guide can be found [here](#).

Notably, the guide discusses The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which is a \$2 trillion disaster relief and economic stimulus package to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Highlights include:

CASH PAYMENTS: Direct payments for individuals earning up to \$99,000 and families earning up to \$198,000. No need to file an application. The IRS will post all key information on [IRS.gov/coronavirus](https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus) as soon as it becomes available.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: The bill makes major changes to unemployment assistance, increasing the benefits and broadening who is eligible. Between now and July 31, an additional \$600 will be added to every unemployment compensation check. The legislation also adds 13 weeks of unemployment insurance. Visit myunemployment.nj.gov for more information on claiming weekly benefits due to the coronavirus emergency.

INCOME TAX RETURNS: The filing deadline has been extended to July 15.

RESOURCES FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS: \$100 billion in funding for eligible health care providers to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), increase workforce, and prepare for surge capacity. At least \$15.4 million from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to New Jersey's health system in preparation for and response to the coronavirus

HOUSING RELIEF: Up to one-year forbearance and 60-day foreclosure and eviction moratorium for New Jerseyans on all federally-backed mortgages.

Links to other resources:

<https://assistance.business.nj.gov/>

<https://www.nj.gov/labor/employer-services/business/covid.shtml>

<https://www.njeda.com/about/Public-Information/Coronavirus-Information>

<https://faq.business.nj.gov/en/collections/2198378-information-for-nj-businesses-on-the-coronavirus-outbreak>