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## A Word from Mayor Alice Fredericks

The days seem to tick by more slowly for many of us as we adjust to Shelter-in-Place. Those of us who rely on internet connections see our teleconferencing apps hiccuping on occasion, our online ordering rising, resolving who gets to pick the next streamed video not so much of a challenge. For many, connecting over various social media, even phone calls, may become more satisfying than we ever anticipated. There is no road map for disruption of schooling, or working effectively at home with our children on board. Sometimes, it may seem as though the pool of grace and forbearance is not bottomless at all.

Resilience is the word. We have seen members of our community offer their dynamic ideas and help, shopping for each other, offering healthcare supplies to our healthcare workers, and greeting each other on our hiking and walking paths with good will and warmth that easily transcends physical distance. Yes, there have been some thoughtless incidents where folks congregate publicly and disregard that the action has potential to put others at risk, but they are thankfully few.

We should all acknowledge that we take care of, not just ourselves and our families, but one another by following the recommendations and updates from our Town, our local Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Marin Health and Human Services Department (HHS), World Health Organization (WHO), and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We will manage this challenge to our communities, our families, our health, our economy, thoughtfully and together.

Alice Fredericks  
Mayor, Town of Tiburon

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## New County Health Order Affecting Parks

On Tuesday, March 24, the Public Health Division of Marin County Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a new order restricting motorized access to all Parks, Campgrounds and Open Space located in Marin County, regardless of ownership. The intent of this Order is to ensure that the maximum number of people self-isolate in their places of residence to the maximum extent feasible, while enabling essential activities including outdoor exercise to continue, to slow the spread of COVID-19 to the maximum extent possible. A copy of this order can be found at this link:

[The order is available here.](#)

In response to this order, the Town of Tiburon will be taking the following steps:

- Effective tonight, the parking area(s) at Blackie's Pasture will be closed to vehicle access.
- Individuals may continue to responsibly access this area on foot or by bicycle.
- Individuals driving vehicles with handicapped placards, or who otherwise believe they meet one of the exceptions included in the Order, can continue to access Town park facilities by parking in the parking lot located on Tiburon Boulevard near Lyford Drive or at the parking lot located adjacent to Town Hall.
- All visitors to any Park facility shall continue to comply with all Social Distancing requirements.

This order came in response to a large influx of visitors from around the Bay Area flocking to Marin parks and beaches over the weekend in search of outdoor recreation. Such crowds create unsafe conditions for County residents, particularly those considered most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus.

The purpose of this order is to remind Marin residents and visitors to:

**Stay Local.** Residents should only visit parks or trails *within walking or biking distance* of their home. Vehicular travel to parks, beaches, or trails is considered non-essential travel and is not permitted under the shelter-in-place order. Stay close to home while enjoying outdoor activity.

**Practice Social Distancing.** It is important that residents continue to practice social distancing and maintain a 6-foot separation from others while outside the home to slow the spread of COVID-19.

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## It's Time to "Double Down" & Stay Home

On March 23, Marin County Public Health Officer Dr. Matt Willis [announced he was the County's 39th confirmed case of COVID-19.](#)

In a video filmed from his home, Dr. Willis shared a personal update about his experience. He urged the community to take the order to stay at home and practice social distancing seriously. He called on the community to "double down" on our efforts to limit community exposure and non-essential travel outside the home to prevent additional community spread of COVID-19.

It is a time of uncertainty for all, but you can help. You can support the front-line health care workers, emergency responders, and the vulnerable members of your family and community by limiting time outside your home as much as possible.

[Watch Dr. Willis' Video](#)

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## Access to Essential Town Functions

The Town continues to monitor the quickly-evolving conditions of COVID-19 in Marin County and the greater Bay Area. In response to the Public Health Order to Shelter-in-Place, the Town has made adjustments to Town departments to comply with the order. **Please note that all Town facilities are currently closed, but some staff members are reachable via email.**

### Police

- The Police Department will continue to respond to incidents involving risk or threats to life and personal safety.

- The Police Department will attempt to handle non-violent crime via telephone and email as much as possible.
- Public access to the Police Department will be limited.
- The non-emergency Police Department telephone number is (415)789-2801 and will be monitored and answered as usual.

### Community Development

- The Planning Division will not be accepting new applications.
- The April 2 Design Review Board meeting & the March 25 Planning Commission meeting have been cancelled.
- The Building Division will not be issuing new permits.
- So long as Social Distancing practices are used during construction:
  - It is acceptable for licensed contractors to conduct emergency repairs and submit for a building permit after the repairs are completed.
  - All residential construction projects that are partly completed can continue to completion in order to ensure health and safety.
  - No new construction projects will be permitted unless they are adding to the supply of our county's housing stock, or maintaining the habitability of homes in order to avoid displacement of residents.
  - Business construction projects related to maintaining or upgrading essential businesses, government, or health care infrastructure are also allowed to go forward.
- If you have a question about your building permit, please [submit this form](#) to get in touch with Building Division staff.

### Public Works

- The Department of Public Works will not be accepting new applications or issuing new encroachment permits.
- The Public Works field crew will be limiting non-essential maintenance to comply with the Order and Social Distancing requirements.
- If you become aware of a hazard, please [submit this form](#) to report a hazard to the department.

### Administration

- All Town facilities are closed, and non-essential staff has been sent home.
- Town Hall's main phone line is not being consistently monitored at this time. If you have a general question, please [submit this form](#) and your question will be directed to the appropriate department or answered as soon as possible.

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## GetReady94920 Classes Cancelled

All GetReady classes have been cancelled. Staff is currently working on getting a class online for residents to view. Information about the online class will be posted on Nextdoor and the Tiburon Peninsula Office of Emergency Services Facebook page when it is available.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about personal preparedness, please contact Laurie Nilsen at [lnilsen@tiburonpd.org](mailto:lnilsen@tiburonpd.org).

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## Beware of COVID-19 Scams

As is often the case during emergency conditions, scammers and fraudsters like to take advantage of the uncertain times and public fear. It is important that you stay vigilant during this time.

### Email Phishing

Email scammers are already taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic, and you may have already received an email claiming to be a reputable hospital or government agency contacting you with important information regarding COVID-19. Beware of generic

language or emails that urgently require your personal information. If you suspect a scam, do not click links or open attachments, and contact the individual or agency directly.

### Healthcare Scams

Healthcare scams usually begin with an unsolicited attempt to contact you. The scammer may contact you asking you for updates to your personal information to ensure continuity of health insurance or issue you a new insurance card, offers for free medical equipment or services, or posing as a health insurance or medical professional threatening fines if you do not purchase health insurance in the wake of the current emergency. Do not share any personal information, and contact your healthcare insurance or provider directly.

### Door-to-Door Visits

Scammers in the Bay Area are already going door-to-door posing as government or medical officials offering COVID-19 testing or vaccines. Government or medical officials will not come to your door unsolicited. There is no at-home test or vaccine available at this time.

### Utility Scams

A utility worker will not come to your door unsolicited threatening immediate suspension of service. [Here are some additional tips about scam protection from PG&E.](#)

If you suspect a scam, do not give the scammer any personal information or money, and do not invite them into your home. If you suspect you are the victim of a scam, contact the Tiburon Police Department at (415)789-2801.

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## Masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Donations

Any residents wishing to donate **unused and sterile (sealed)** N-95 masks or personal protective equipment (PPE) to Marin County healthcare workers should bring their donation to the Tiburon Police Department.

The Police Department is available to receive donations during business hours only (Monday - Friday 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.).

When you arrive at the Police Station, call (415)789-2801 and a staff member will meet you to receive the donation.

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## Your Toilet is Not a Trash Can

You can support your local sanitary district's operations by ensuring you and your family flush only toilet paper down the toilet. Any disposable wipes, including those marketed as 'flushable', do not disintegrate in water and contribute to clogs of public sewer lines, pumps, and treatment facilities.

Some treatment plants in California [have already reported backups](#) due to an increase in disposable wipes use, and interference with sewage collection and treatment. These sanitation issues could create an additional public health issue in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more tips on Baywise.](#)

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## Supporting the Local Business Community

The Town of Tiburon is working closely with the Tiburon Peninsula Chamber of Commerce in support of our local business community while the Shelter-in-Place Order is in effect.

Please go to [www.tiburonchamber.org](http://www.tiburonchamber.org) to learn about pertinent small business loan

programs, and a complete list of local restaurants open and eager to take your order for takeout and delivery.

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## Stay Active and Well-Read at Home

The Belvedere-Tiburon Library is closed, but did you know you can access thousands of electronic books, magazines, and articles from their website? [Browse the electronic library here.](#)

The Ranch has cancelled all community programs, but has virtual fitness classes you can do from home. [Check out Pilates and Zumba here!](#)

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## Earth Day Celebration Postponed

After careful consideration of the COVID-19 guidelines issued by local, state and national authorities, the Town has made the decision to **postpone** our upcoming Earth Day celebration.

This decision was made with the safety and best interests of our community in mind. We are evaluating future date options and we will make an announcement once a final date has been selected.

Most importantly, given the fluidity of the situation, we appreciate the uncertainty these circumstances present. We care deeply about our community and take seriously our responsibility to our residents, local businesses, and local organizations. Our thoughts are with you and your families as we work to address the challenges of this global pandemic.

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## Stay Informed

Any additional updates to Town essential services will be posted to the home page of the Town's website at [www.townoftiburon.org](http://www.townoftiburon.org).

Your main resource for local updates about COVID-19 in Marin County should be the Marin County Department of Health & Human Services dedicated web page at [coronavirus.marinhhs.org](http://coronavirus.marinhhs.org). On this page you will also find a detailed and informative FAQ about the Shelter-in-Place Order.

Inquiries should be directed to:

- The Marin HHS Information Hotline at 415-473-7191. Phone calls will be answered Monday-Friday, 9:30am-12:00pm and 1:00pm-5:00pm.
- [COVID-19@marincounty.org](mailto:COVID-19@marincounty.org) for emailed inquiries.

Please only call 911 for life-threatening emergencies. The dispatch center has been overwhelmed with general inquiries about COVID-19.

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