



Santa Cruz County News

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For Immediate Release

Who: Santa Cruz County

What: COVID-19 County Closures – Cancellations and service modifications

When: Wednesday, March 25, 2020

Where: Santa Cruz County

Certain Santa Cruz County buildings will close to the public, except by appointment, on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 as officials ramp up efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Below are a list of closures.

2150 North Congress Drive

Departments at this site - the Assessor, Recorder, Treasurer, Public Fiduciary, School Superintendent, Emergency Management, Public Works, Information Technology, Finance, Board of Supervisors, County Attorney, Health department, and Community Development.

2170 North Congress Drive, Sheriff's Office.

1368 North Hohokam Drive, Animal Control.

“As part of our ongoing efforts to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the decision was made to close all Administrative offices at Santa Cruz County to the general public. Our emergency proclamation ensures that every County Department will continue to provide services to all of our constituents. I would direct all of our residents and partners to visit our website at www.santacruzcountyaz.gov for more information. We urge everyone to err on the side of caution and adhere to the social-distancing and hygiene protocols as indicated by the Arizona Department of Health Services,” stated Supervisor Bruce Bracker, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for Santa Cruz County.

Jeff Terrell, Health Services Director, said, “Closing of the County Building and only allowing appointments will help prevent community spread of the COVID-19 virus. Each member of the community can do their part by actively social distancing themselves.”

The closing will have no effect on public safety as staff and officers will continue working. Sheriff Tony Estrada said, “due to the current outbreak of the COVID-19, we are putting the safety of our citizens and employees first. We are closing the lobby to the public to minimize the risk of spreading the virus. All 911 operations will continue as usual and patrols will continue 24/7. Inmate visitations will be temporarily halted. The public is encouraged to call, 761-7869 in advance, if they feel it is necessary to setup an

appointment with the sheriff's department. In the event of an emergency, the public is directed to call 9-1-1."

Although the Office of Emergency Management works out of the main county building, Ray Sayre, Director of Emergency Management continues to coordinate with County Public Health, State Public Health, and State Emergency Management. "Our Emergency Operations Center has been in operation for nearly two-weeks in a virtual mode. This means we can continue working with all of our local partners, without directly having persons in the Emergency Operations Center. We have trained additional workforce as force multipliers should we need them to assist. "

We are on daily conference calls with State Emergency Management, the National Guard, and all other County Emergency Managers. Additionally we are providing situational awareness, daily situation reports, and coordinating resource requests via existing emergency management electronic software.

We have nearly 1,000 enrolled in our opt-in Emergency Alert System which you may enroll in at:

<http://www.santacruzcountyaz.gov>. Then select:

Government

Office of Emergency Management

Popular Links (on the left side of the page)

Santa Cruz County Alerts

Should emergent public communications be needed, Santa Cruz County has access to the FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) wherein we can trigger alerts based on cell tower location. "