

March 30, 2020 A message from our Mayor:

“As we enter week two of [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#), I want to thank all of those who are following the mandate set forth by Governor Inslee. As of last night, we have 15 cases of COVID-19 in the FME community, sadly one of those ended in death. I'm unsure of his name or which city he lives in, but my heart hurts anytime our community suffers a loss.

Milton is doing a good job of following *Stay Home, Stay Healthy*, but we can do better. Here are some things I know we can improve on:

- Stay off school playgrounds, tracks and fields. Even if you don't agree with the closures, the Fife School District has closed them and we need to respect their decision.
- Continue to follow the 6ft rule when outside. We want to keep the Interurban Trail open, but that means we can't see groups walking along the trail.
- Limit your contact to those within your individual households as much as possible.

As more of you get outside for walks, we have received increased comments regarding pet violations. I have to remind you that if you have a dog, it's YOUR responsibility to pick up after your dog. Yes, I'm talking about dog poop. It's no one's job to pick it up but yours. At this time, Milton does not have an off leash dog park. Please remember that your dog must stay on a leash. This includes when on the trail, at parks and/or ball fields.

As we navigate through the new normal, please know that I'm working hard to keep Milton safe. I'm in constant contact with the Governor, Health Department, our State and Federal Representatives, as well as our local leaders to keep ahead of this. We will feel the affects of COVID-19 for some time, but we will get through it. And when we do, we will be a stronger more united community. Stay Home, Stay Healthy Milton!” ~Mayor Shanna Styron Sherrell

March 27, 2020 Governor Inslee's [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#) order went into place on March 23rd and will remain until midnight on April 6th. This order requires every Washingtonian to stay at home, except for people:

- Pursuing an essential activity, like shopping for groceries or going to a medical appointment.
- Getting takeout food. (Food deliveries also are permitted).
- Going to work at an [essential business](#).
- Going outside for walks and exercise, as long as social distancing of 6 feet is maintained.

For the City of Milton we will continue to operate as we have been. Here's what that means:

- City Hall, Milton Activity Center, Community Building and park bathrooms will remain closed to the public until at least midnight on April 6th. In an effort to keep employees healthy, we are operating with limited staff on site. We are also working remotely, so please allow extra time for response.
- Playgrounds remain closed.
- Construction projects will continue as long as they are within the *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* guidelines. This is also the same for inspections.
- No late fees or shut offs in the month of March.

We continue to closely monitor COVID-19 and adapt as necessary. We have witnessed the residents of Milton following [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#); THANK YOU!

March 23, 2020 [Milton Water Quality During COVID-19](#)

March 21, 2020 *ALL PLAYGROUNDS ARE NOW CLOSED.* “It was my hope that all residents of Milton would exhibit social distancing and basic hygiene when going outside. I was wrong.

Effective Sunday, March 22, 2020 all playgrounds will be closed in the City of Milton. This is due to the inability to follow the mandate of social distancing coming from Governor Inslee and the 15-Day Pause coming from our President.

On Friday, Governor Inslee asked all Washingtonians to do their part in stopping the spread of COVID-19. If not, we should expect a “shelter in place” order. We are also unable to sanitize playground equipment at the level and frequency needed.

I know some of you will take issue with the closing of our playgrounds, but it is my job to protect the safety and well-being of this community. I hope that when we get through this, I can say that the City of Milton played a role in stopping COVID-19, not spreading it. Please do your part in stopping the spread of COVID-19.” Mayor Shanna Styron Sherrell

Playground equipment will be roped off. Electronic reader boards and signage will be updated Monday morning.

March 19, 2020 *KEEP OUR PARKS OPEN, PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING.* It will take all of us to stop the spread of COVID-19. With the nice weather, we have noticed that some residents of Milton don't fully understand the meaning of social distancing. Social distancing must be met and this includes when being outside. Simply put: stay six feet away from each other.

The Washington Department of Health advises that “being within 6 feet of a sick person with COVID-19 for about 10 minutes” constitutes close contact which could result in exposure. It will take each of us to stop the spread of COVID-19.

March 16, 2020 To take proactive measures to protect the health and safety of our city employees and community, we are closing public access to City Hall offices and buildings now through Friday, April 3, 2020. This is in an effort to curve the COVID-19 virus and at the recommendation of Federal and State agencies.

We will continue to provide general government services remotely. Communication with all departments can be done through email or by telephone. Please use online bill pay, USPS or the drop box located at City Hall for all utility payments. Building inspections will be limited to outdoor inspections only. All boards and committee meetings will be canceled as well. Our parks will remain open. We do ask that you practice social distancing when visiting them.

Mayor's Office & Public Record Request: 253-517-2705

Payment/Billing Questions: 253-922-8733

Water, Storm, Streets & Electric: 253-579-4731 or 253-255-8854

Planning & Building: 253-922-8738 or 253-345-9892

Emergency: 9-1-1

“One thing I am certain about is that we as a community will be okay. The Milton community is one of compassion, strength and determination; we will get through this together. I ask that you follow the recommendations coming from Governor Inslee and the Center for Disease Control by practicing social distancing. Enjoy the outdoors, check on your neighbors, take care of our vulnerable population and support our local businesses. This is a time for compassion. Have compassion and patience for our overworked healthcare providers, grocery store employees, truck drivers, public works employees, law enforcement and fire department. And in the words of Mr. Rogers, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, look for the helpers”. Milton is full of helpers and I know as a community we will take care of each other.” ~Mayor Styron Sherrell

March 12, 2020 After careful consideration, all City of Milton programs at the Milton Activity Center are canceled until Friday, April 3, 2020. This decision was made out of an abundance of caution to protect our most vulnerable population and aid in the effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. If you have any questions about programming please contact rose@cityofmilton.net.

March 11, 2020 Today, March 11th at 4:35pm, Mayor Shanna Styron Sherrell signed an Emergency Proclamation. This was done in preparation, not in panic. The proclamation has been signed to protect the public health, safety and welfare of Milton's residents should Milton have a COVID-19 outbreak. At the current time, City Hall remains open and all meetings and programs remain scheduled. [Emergency Proclamation 2020](#)

March 9, 2020 Mayor Styron Sherrell and Chief Hernandez in partnership with the Pierce County Emergency Management, are closely monitoring COVID-19. Currently, all City of Milton meetings and programs remain scheduled. For the well-being of our staff and visitors, we ask that you avoid City Hall and other public settings if you are experiencing any signs of sickness.

Public health recommendations will be evaluated daily and plans will be adjusted accordingly. For the most up to date information, please visit the [Center for Disease Control](#) and [Pierce County Health Department](#) websites. Additionally, the [Washington State Department of Health](#) can provide information.

Construction: Under the [*Stay Home, Stay Healthy*](#) order, [construction is only authorized](#) in these circumstances:

1.
 1. Construction related to [essential activities](#) as described in the order;
 2. To further a public purpose related to a public or governmental function or facility. Including but not limited to publicly financed low-income housing; or
 3. To prevent spoliation and avoid damage or unsafe conditions, and address emergency repairs at both non-essential businesses and residential structures.

City of Milton will continue to accept applications for building permits and land use applications. At this time, the only approved construction projects and inspections are for Surprise Lake Middle School and City of Milton Well #5. Emergency construction and inspections will be conducted only if all social distancing and worker protections are met. Video meetings and inspections will be done case-by-case.

Should you feel a construction violation is being made, please contact us at 253-922-8738 or [via email](#). Any construction happening outside of the current mandates will be asked to stop. Should a second call come in, a letter will be sent to the property owner and a report will be filed with the Governor's office. We are asking that anyone contacting us for a second time on a property to [fill out the report](#) as well.

Edited and/or removed from the website on 5-5-2020

City Hall offices and buildings will remain closed to the public through May 4, 2020. Milton Activity Center and Community Building will remain closed, along with public bathrooms and playgrounds. Stay Home, Stay Healthy!

Governor Inslee's [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#) order went into place on March 23rd and will remain in place through May 4th. This order requires every Washingtonian to stay at home, except for people:

- Pursuing an essential activity, like shopping for groceries or going to a medical appointment.
- Getting takeout food. (Food deliveries also are permitted).
- Going to work at an [essential business](#).
- Going outside for walks and exercise, as long as social distancing of 6 feet is maintained.

Additionally,

- City Hall, Milton Activity Center and Community Building will remain closed to the public through May 4th. In an effort to keep employees healthy, we are operating with limited staff on site. We are also working remotely, so please allow extra time for response.
- All boards and commission meetings have been cancelled through May 4th.
- Playgrounds, basketball courts, tennis court and public bathrooms will remain closed until further notice.
- [Construction projects](#) will continue as long as they are within the *Stay Home, Stay Healthy* guidelines.
- All Fife School District ball fields, tracks and playgrounds remain closed until further notice.

Construction: On April 24, 2020, Gov. Jay Inslee announced a plan to allow current construction projects to be completed. The requirements are as follows:

1. Restart existing construction projects with COVID-19 safety plans that allow work which only can be performed while meeting social distancing requirements.
2. Prior to recommencing work, all contractors are required to develop and post at each job site a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control, mitigation and recovery plan.
3. All contractors are required to post at each job site a written notice to employees, subcontractors and government officials the work that will be performed at that job site and a signed commitment to adhere to the requirements.
4. All contractors have a general obligation to keep a safe and healthy job site in accordance with state and federal law.

Additional requirements were released on [Phase 1 of Construction Restart](#). Should you feel a construction violation is being made, please contact us at 253-922-8738 or [via email](#).