



SPECIAL – ISSUE

March 29, 2020

COVID-19 Response: Community & Agency Actions Taken to Assist Our Most Vulnerable

State Government Relief:

- Governor Beshear announced on March 18 that all recipients of public assistance programs will automatically have their eligibility extended for three months. A re-application is not necessary. The assistance programs include food stamps and Medicaid. The Governor said all those that lost their jobs and their work-related benefits due to COVID-19 can immediately apply for health coverage through the state's Medicaid program.
- Per Governor Beshear on March 16, a seven-day waiting period is waived for any Kentuckian applying for unemployment benefits, and those unemployed due to COVID-19 are more likely to receive benefits than those that are unemployed for another reason. The Governor defined being unemployed by COVID-19 as when your employer has closed the business due to the virus or if you are quarantined. If it is expected that the individual will return to work when the business opens or when their quarantine is over, then that person meets the criteria as being unemployed by COVID-19 and could then be deemed eligible for benefits. Because the seven-day waiting period is now waived, if a Kentuckian is approved for benefits, the first payment they receive will be for two weeks of benefits and not just one, as is regular procedure.

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Digital Access:

- Spectrum Support: Beginning Monday, March 16, Charter commits to the following for 60 days:
 - Charter will offer free Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription at any service level up to 100 Mbps. To enroll call 1-844-488-8395. Installation fees will be waived for new student households.
 - Charter will partner with school districts to ensure local communities are aware of these tools to help students learn remotely.
 - For eligible low-income households without school-aged children, Charter continues to offer Spectrum Internet Assist, a low-cost broadband program delivering speeds of 30 Mbps
 - Charter will open its Wi-Fi hotspots across our footprint for public use
 - Spectrum does not have data caps or hidden fees.
- T-Mobile/Sprint is temporarily removing all data caps and allowing customers with their smartphones to use them as hotspots for 50GB/month.

TARC

- All TARC vehicles, including fixed-route buses and TARC3 vehicles, are being cleaned and sanitized daily in accordance with guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control. TARC is exceeding the guidelines of most transit agencies concerning COVID-19 sanitization techniques.
- The TARC Safety & Security Department has been taking additional steps in response to COVID-19, providing kits to drivers that include gloves, sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes.
- In addition to local officials, TARC is in regular communication with the Federal Transit Administration and the American Public Transportation Association.

Updates can be found here: <https://www.ridetarc.org/news-events/>

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Metro Office of Resilience & Community Services / Neighborhood Place

- The seven Neighborhood Place locations will close to walk-in traffic starting on Wednesday.
- For information on financial assistance, call (502) 363-1424
- For WIC assistance, call (502) 574-7975.
- If you need to apply for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP); call (502) 991-8391. Go to <https://louisvilleky.gov/government/resilience-and-community-services/low-income-home-energy-assistance-program-liheap> for info.
- If you need to drop off LIHEAP paperwork, please leave your documents in the red box at the Neighborhood Place door.

For information on Food Stamps, Medicaid, K-TAP, and Child Care, please call (855) 306-8959

Metro Public Health & Wellness

- WIC offices are closed to walk-in traffic. For assistance with WIC, call (502) 574-7975.
- The TB Clinic is operating by appointment only.
- The Specialty Clinic is limiting the number of people in its waiting room and practicing social distancing.

Metro Animal Services

- Animal Control officers will only respond to the most serious incidents involving a human and domestic animal in progress, or to assist first responders.
- The LMAS Shelter at 3528 Newburg Road will be open only for adoptions, citizens looking for a lost pet, fosters, and stray pet surrenders.
- Go to [gov/government/animal-services](https://louisvilleky.gov/government/animal-services) for more info. You can also direct questions to animals@louisvilleky.gov.

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Louisville Parks & Recreation

- The city's 120 parks, including its 18 Olmsted-designed parks will remain open with no restrictions on access. The 6,700-acre Jefferson Memorial Forest will also stay open, but the Welcome Center is closed. Parks employees are increasing cleaning protocols and implementing social distancing.
 - Louisville's 10 municipal golf courses will remain open for play. Parks has taken several steps to ensure the safety of players and employees:
 - In the clubhouses, food service will be limited to takeout only. Tables and chairs will be removed to prevent social gathering, and patrons are discouraged from congregating inside them.
 - Additionally, bathrooms and touchpoints will be cleaned multiple times daily, credit card terminals will be cleaned after every use, and clubhouse employees will use gloves during every transaction.
 - Golf carts will be limited to a single rider per cart, and carts will be thoroughly cleaned after each use. Golfers are encouraged to keep six feet away from each other during play, and flags are to be left in the holes at all times.
 - The Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center is closed.
 - The city's 13 community centers are temporarily closed to the public through April 5.
 - The Wilderness Louisville Senior Center is closed.
 - Parks will not be accepting rentals of facilities and shelters through April 5. All rentals through April 5 have been canceled. Those with rental agreements through Louisville Parks and Recreation will have the option of a refund or a rescheduled date.
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Louisville Zoo

The Zoo is temporarily closed. While there have been no known cases of exposure to COVID-19 at the Zoo, the decision to close was made to further support efforts to reduce the rapid spread of the virus and to protect the health and wellbeing of Zoo staff and the community. The animal care team and other essential personnel will remain active at the Zoo; however, staff who are able to work from home will be encouraged to do so. The Asian Lantern Festival has been temporarily closed as well.

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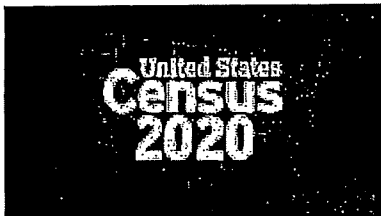
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AARP Foundation Tax-Aide Sites Services Suspended Until Further Notice

As coronavirus (COVID-19) developments change hour by hour, AARP Foundation is doing its part to flatten the curve of transmission. A top priority for us is ensuring we are protecting those most at risk, including our volunteers and taxpayers. Therefore, we are suspending AARP Foundation Tax-Aide services beginning March 16, 2020 until further notice.

We will continue to assess whether we can open again in some or all sites for the remainder of the tax season and if the tax season is extended. Please visit our website <http://www.aarp-tax-aide-you.org/Sites/sites.html> or call 502-394-3443 for updated info.

Census 2020



Census forms are arriving in the mail. Census data is used to determine how many representatives each state gets in Congress, how many districts each state has, and how much federal funding states and counties receive, in addition to other things.

You can go online and complete the census. You can also call 1-844-330-2020 to complete the survey over the phone as soon as you receive the invitation. The best way to avoid a visit from a census taker is to fill out the 2020 Census questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail as soon as you receive your invitation to participate. We urge you to do so by April 1, to limit person-to-person contact as the coronavirus continues to spread. The census website is here: <https://my2020census.gov/>.

Here's the schedule, subject to change (like everything else these days).

- March 12-20 Invitations mailed
- March 16-24 Reminder letters sent
- March 26-April 3 Reminder postcards
- April 1 Census Day
- April 8-16 Hardcopy Census mailed
- April 20-27 Final postcards mailed
- May 1 Non-response follow-ups begin

Apply for a 30% Senior Discount on Sewer Services



If you'd like to apply for a 30% Senior Citizen Discount of the amount billed for sanitary sewer service and the EPA Consent Decree Surcharge, please print, complete and return the form. You must be able to provide documentation verifying:

- you are the legal title/leaseholder/renter of the property
- you are 65 years of age or older
- your household gross income is \$35,000 or less per year.

PARC

- Motorists must still pay to park in metered spots. Parking violations will still be issued but booting has been suspended.
- To help support the local food and beverage industry, PARC will allow 15 minutes of free meter parking in spots near restaurants if you are picking up a carryout order or buying a gift card. Make sure to turn on your flashers.

Jefferson County Public Schools ANNOUNCEMENT

- All JCPS buildings including the VanHoose Education Building and the Lam Building are closed to the public. This will impact parents and guardians who are trying to register their children for future programs or normally have in-person visits with JCPS employees. Questions? Call 313-HELP from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m, Monday- Friday.
- JCPS Nutrition Services has begun distributing free breakfast and lunch to all children 18 and under as well as all JCPS students over age 18. JCPS has 45 sites where families can drive or walk up and get the meals from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. each weekday while schools are closed. Each child present can get a breakfast and lunch. Here's a video from the Rangeland Elementary School site.
- If you have questions about registration or the assignment plan during our closure, please send an email to: AskStudentAssignment@Jefferson.kyschools.us
- Just a reminder that you should have two weeks worth of supplemental educational materials in hard copy or in your student's Digital Backpack. You can also find them here. We encourage your child to do the exercises, even though they are not required, to stay engaged in learning and be ready to get back into the classroom when JCPS reopens. Other online educational resources are available at Clever.com. Your student can find the additional exercises on this site with their JCPS log-in information.
- Check out our weekly Monday Minute video which has more information regarding the school closure.

We are scheduled to return to school on April 6th and we can't wait to have students back in our classrooms.

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