



Pittsfield Charter Township

Department of Public Safety

6227 West Michigan Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Phone: (734) 822-4911 • Fax: (734) 944-0744

Website: www.pittsfield-mi.gov

Mandy Grewal, Supervisor

Matthew E. Harshberger

Director of Public Safety

Chief of Police

harshbergerm@pittsfield-mi.gov

(734) 822-4921

Sean Gleason

Fire Chief

gleasons@pittsfield-mi.gov

(734) 822-4926

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update Department of Public Safety Operations

The Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety continues to work closely with local and state health officials in response to the coronavirus, COVID-19.

Residents can expect that public safety (Police & Fire) first responders will maintain a consistently high level of quality service with a few additional precautions designed to safeguard citizens and first responders to the extent reasonably possible. Should you come into contact with a police officer or firefighter, they will be asking you three additional questions. These questions assist us in screening for individuals potentially infected with COVID-19.

1. Do you have a new cough or flu like symptoms?
2. Do you have a fever?
3. Have you come into contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19?

Stigma will not fight the coronavirus, but sharing accurate information will. You can do your part to keep our community and first responders safe by helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by truthfully answering these three simple questions.

Standard Police & Fire Operations Update –

As a precaution, police officers and firefighters will attempt to maintain a distance of 6 to 8 feet from all persons they come in contact with. Additionally, police officers will also attempt to handle many non-emergency calls for service (reports) by telephone to decrease the risk of exposure with potentially infected persons.

Updates will be posted on our website and Facebook page, as well as issued through the township's Notify Me advisory system. Future responses may include reducing the number of public lobby hours at the Department of Public safety that may also involve a temporary stoppage of court-ordered PBT's, civilian and court-ordered fingerprints, and other face-to-face contacts initiated in the public safety lobby.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update –

COVID-19 cases have now been confirmed in the State of Michigan. The Washtenaw County Health Department continues to work closely with state and federal health officials to appropriately monitor or test individuals locally who may have been exposed to or may have/carry the disease.

The Health Department continues to recommend prevention strategies. Handwashing is critically important to reduce the spread of illness, as is staying away from others when sick and maintaining “social distancing.” Whenever possible in community settings or meetings, practice maintaining extra distance between people, up to 6 feet.

The situation locally may change quickly. The Health Department and your local Washtenaw County Officials are relying on our community to work together to slow the potential spread of illness and refer to official sources of reliable information.

Response Actions –

Washtenaw County Health Department is working with health care providers to test individuals as needed. Individuals with concerns or symptoms should call their health care provider first with questions. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. Remember that these symptoms may also be caused by other viruses, such as flu. Additionally, an individual without symptoms is very unlikely to test positive, even with possible exposure.

The Health Department continues to coordinate with federal, state, and local officials, as well as institutions, schools, and community organizations, to be ready for additional actions as necessary.

The Health Department has expanded its phone lines. Callers may dial 734-544-6700 (option 3) to hear a recorded update and to have the option to speak to a staff member or leave a message. Current hours are weekdays 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

Prevention –

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The Washtenaw County Health Department advises that the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus and maintaining good hygiene practices.

- **Clean your hands often**
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for **at least 20 seconds** especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
 - **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**
- **Stay home when you are sick**, except to get medical care. Call ahead before going to your healthcare provider.
- **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Or sneeze into the crook of your elbow or arm, if a tissue is not available. Immediately wash your hands.
- **Clean and disinfect**

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- **Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.**
 - **If you are sick:** You should wear a facemask when you are around other people (e.g., sharing a room or vehicle) and before you enter a healthcare provider's office. If you are not able to wear a facemask (for example, because it causes trouble breathing), then you should do your best to cover your coughs and sneezes, and people who are caring for you should wear a facemask if they enter your room.
 - **If you are NOT sick:** You do not need to wear a facemask unless you are caring for someone who is sick (and they are not able to wear a facemask). Facemasks may be in short supply and they should be saved for caregivers.

Older adults and people who have severe underlying chronic medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness. Visit www.CDC.gov/coronavirus to learn more preventative measures or consult with your health care provider for more steps you may be able to take to protect yourself.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) recommends additional community mitigation strategies. Recommendations for individuals, facilities, schools, workplaces, community organizations, and other mass events can be found at www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Issued: March 13, 2020