



Town of Adams • Massachusetts 01220

TOWN HALL
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March 16, 2020

PRESS RELEASE

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**TOWN OF ADAMS
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS TO BE CLOSED EFFECTIVE MARCH 17**

ADAMS, MA – As a follow up to the Town of Adams' Declaration of a State Emergency, and in response to Governor Charlie Baker's order given on Sunday, March 15, the Offices of the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen advise that effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 the following municipal buildings will be closed to the public - Town Hall, DPW Garage, Library, and Council on Aging/Visitors Center.

Town staff will report as usual and be available by telephone to handle municipal business. A drop box will be located at the front steps of Town Hall for the public to deposit paperwork and necessary items to allow for continuation of services. Residents are encouraged to use online features and functions of the Town webpages; transaction fees will be waived for the duration of the ongoing emergency. Town Government will continue to provide essential functions and services to the best of our ability and all Town staff will be available by phone. All non-essential public meetings have been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date or when a method to allow for remote participation can be established.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as this situation evolves. Please know that these and other actions are being taken in the interest of public health and safety consistent with guidance from the Office of the Governor and Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

VISITORS CENTER OFFICES: The Visitors Center will be closed to the general public until further notice. All scheduled meetings and events are canceled until further notice.

- **Council on Aging** - The Adams Council on Aging will be closed to the general public for walk-in services, but will continue to offer essential transportation services on a pre-arranged basis. The Council on Aging staff are onsite and will be determining if an in-person meeting is necessary by phone at (413) 743-8333. For any needs relatable to the older adult population, i.e. access to health care, transportation, nutrition, etc. please contact our staff via phone so that we may assess your needs and how we may best address them.

- **Adams Retirement Board** - The Adams Retirement Board may be reached via phone at 413-743-5575
- **Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District** - The Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management may be reached via phone by calling 413-743-8208

ADAMS FREE LIBRARY: The library will be closed until further notice. Staff will be available via phone from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Please return books via the drop box on Melrose Street and call ahead to arrange to pick up items at (413) 743-8345. Email services will still be running and virtual resources are available at www.adamslibraryma.org. The wireless signal will remain on and accessible outside the building on the property. Late fees will be waived during this time and expiration dates for items on hold will be extended.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Police walk-up services including the License-to Carry and other fingerprinting services are suspended at this time. Further information on this may be obtained by calling the Police Department directly at 743-1212.

TOWN HALL OFFICES: The Town Hall building will be closed to the public, however Town Hall staff will report and be available by telephone to handle municipal business. A drop box will be located at the front steps of Town Hall for the public to deposit paperwork and necessary items to allow for continuation of services. Residents are encouraged to use online features and functions of the Town webpages and transaction fees will be waived for the duration of the ongoing emergency. Town Government will continue to provide essential functions and services to the best of our ability and all Town staff will be available by phone. All non-essential and non-critical public meetings have been cancelled and will be rescheduled for a later date or when a method to allow for remote participation can be established.

- **Town Assessor** - Staff will be available by phone to answer questions at (413) 743-8300 x178. There will be a drop-box located at the front of Town Hall for any paperwork drop-off necessary.
- **Treasurer/Tax Collector's Office** - Staff is available by phone for any questions at (413) 743-8300 x177, however payments are not accepted over the phone. For any payments please send by postal mail or pay online through the Town of Adams website for Real Estate, Parking Tickets, Personal Property and Excise Bills. Payments can be made by check or credit cards and the fee that is attached will be waived. Bag Tags for the Transfer Station may be purchased for \$1.20 each or \$6.00 for five by check through the postal mail, and they will be mailed back to you.
- **Town Clerk's Office** – Staff will be available by phone to answer questions on Birth, Marriage and Death Certificates, Dog Licenses or questions regarding the Census or Elections at (413) 743-8300 x176. Any paperwork may be mailed or dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall.
- **Building Commissioner Office** – All inquiries may be made by phone at (413) 743-8300 x171 or by email. Online permitting services are available for all building permits. Documents may be dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall.
- **Board of Health/Code Enforcement Office** – All inquiries may be made by phone at (413) 743-8300 x171 or by email. Online permitting services are available for all Board of Health permits. Documents may be dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall.
- **Community Development Office** - All inquiries may be made by phone at (413) 743-8300 x173 or by email. Documents may be dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall.

- **Department of Public Works/Cemeteries, Parks & Grounds Office** - All inquiries may be made by phone at (413) 743-8300 x172 or by email. Documents may be dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall.
- **Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen Office** - All inquiries may be made by phone at (413) 743-8300 x170 or by email. Documents may be dropped off at the drop box located at the front of Town Hall. Updates will be made available as situations unfold.

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