



EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER



March 23, 2020

NEWAYGO COUNTY LOCAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES AVAILABLE DURING COVID-19

TEXT: UPDATE 03/23/20: Local assistance resources still available during COVID-19. Click for more info (LINK ATTACHED)

EMAIL: UPDATE 03/23/20: Local assistance resources still available during COVID-19.

Thank you for your support in keeping our community safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please note that we have a plan in place to effectively and efficiently attend to anyone concerned about whether they may have contracted the disease. This is a very fluid situation and you should expect this information to change as new information emerges and/or new orders are given by the Governor or Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. *NewaygoES is doing our best to keep up with rapidly developing and evolving situations and we will strive to be as timely and accurate as possible.*

For COVID-19 questions, please contact the State of Michigan toll-free hotline at 1-800-535-6136

Current Status of Michigan and Newaygo County

As of 03/23/2020 at 4:30 pm, there are 1,328 lab confirmed positive COVID-19 cases in the State of Michigan and 15 deaths. Additional test results are now coming in from commercial and clinical labs. 37 Locations across Michigan have had cases of positive test. State of Michigan:

<https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>

As of 03/23/2020, District Health Department #10 (DHD#10) reported the first presumptive positive case(s) of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in a Newaygo County resident. They are working quickly to investigate this case and to determine if there were any exposures to the individual. Additional information and guidance will be announced as soon as possible at www.dhd10.org/coronavirus and via Newaygo County Emergency Services Nixle feed.

Local Assistance Resources

School Lunches:

All public schools have coordinated breakfast and lunch for all school age students. Please see the Information on local student meals press release for additional information - <https://local.nixle.com/alert/7872456/>

Love Inc:

If you are facing new challenges and need assistance, please call Love Inc at 231-652-4099. The Resale Store is closed until April 6, 2020. The Food Pantry and Help Office will remain open with altered procedures –

- No face-to-face intake will occur at the Help Center. All intakes will be done via phone.
- The food pantry will be available via minimal access onsite shopping one at a time or in pre-packaged food boxes delivered curbside to vehicles.

Hand2Hand will be opening a food pantry at Inspire **Church (formally the Fremont Wesleyan Church)**. It will be open Mondays 9-11 am, Wednesdays 11-1 am and 6-8 pm. The address is 918 Garden Ave., Fremont, MI 49412. We welcome families with food insecurity to obtain the food they need. If any families need food delivered, please call 231-225-2183.

Feeding America Mobile Food Pantry in Newaygo County

March 25 10:00 AM - TrueNorth Community Services, 6308 South Warner Ave, Fremont

March 31 4:00 PM - White Cloud Church of God, 1621 S. Evergreen Dr., White Cloud

April 4 10:00 AM - Pine Grove Community Church, 8775 E. 88th St., Howard City

April 7 5:00 PM - Fremont United Methodist Church, 351 Butterfield Street, Fremont,

April 8 5:00 PM - Weaver Park Pavilion, 194 Hoskins St, Hesperia,

April 9 3:00 PM - Amazing Grace Acres Church, 762 W. Woodland Park Dr., Brohman,

<https://www.feedwm.org/Mobile-Pantry-Schedule/>

True North Community Services:

The following services will remain open under some modifications

- **Camp Newaygo:** All public community events are canceled through April 13. Girls' Resident Camp and Co-ed Day Camp are proceeding as scheduled.
- **Center for Nonprofit Housing:** Services will be available with increased use of phone and electronic communication when appropriate.
- **Food Pantry:** The food pantry at the TrueNorth Service Center in Fremont will remain accessible during normal hours (8:30am – 4:30pm). Prepackaged boxes of food will be delivered curbside to vehicles at the food pantry exit door (north side of the building).
- **Heat and Energy:** All heat and energy programs will proceed as normal.
- **Housing:** Essential housing services, such as homeless prevention and support, will be available with increased use of phone and electronic communication when appropriate.
- **Mobile Food Truck:** The mobile food truck schedule will not change, but will run as a drive-thru for pre-assembled boxes of food items.
- **Weekend PowerPacks:** We are currently working with individual school districts to find an alternative method of distribution to students in need.

Grocery Pick Up Service

Houseman's: Beginning March 17, 2020, Houseman's is offering FREE Grocery Pick-Up Service for elderly customers and those with health issues. Please call the store for additional information at Baldwin: 231-745-2761, White Cloud: 231-689-1280.

Leppinks: Groceries to Go APP or order online for Pick Up Service.

Gene's Croton Market: Curbside service is available for elderly and veteran customers for a fee. Please call 231-652-1350

Ed's Orchard Market Hesperia: Curbside service is available for elderly and veteran customers. Please call 231-854-3165

Walmart: Curbside pickup is available. Please call 231-924-5000

Shopping Hours ONLY for Groups that are most vulnerable

Dollar General

The first hour of operations each day is dedicated solely for the shopping needs of senior customers, who are one of the groups most vulnerable to the COVID-19 coronavirus. In keeping with the Company's mission of *Serving Others*, Dollar General wants to provide these at-risk customers with the ability to purchase the items they need and want at the beginning of each day to avoid busier and more crowded shopping periods. Other customers are encouraged to plan their shopping trips around this window of time to allow the most susceptible customers in our communities the ability to shop during the first hour that stores are open. Please see individual stores for hours of operation.

Meijer

Open 8a-10p

Dedicated shopping times

senior citizens and customers with chronic health conditions to shop in stores at 7-8 a.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Essential service workers — medical workers, first responders and law enforcement — as well as Meijer team members will have dedicated hours to shop 7-8 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Walmart

Open 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. <https://corporate.walmart.com/newsroom/2020/03/18/latest-walmart-store-changes-to-support-associates-and-customers>

From March 24 through April 28, Walmart stores will host an hour-long senior shopping event every Tuesday for customers aged 60 and older. This will start one hour before the store opens. Our Pharmacies and Vision Centers will also be open during this time.

Unemployment:

Effective immediately, individuals who have been laid off or had their place of employment closed due to COVID-19 should reach out to see what options are available. To receive assistance, individuals are encouraged to contact Treasury's Collections Service Center at 517-636-5265.

Under the Governor's Executive Order 2020-010, unemployment benefits will be temporarily expanded until April 14, 2020. This expansion includes benefits increasing from 20 to 26 weeks, the application eligibility period will be increased from 14 to 28 days, and the normal in-person registration and work search requirements will be suspended. Eligibility now includes workers who have unanticipated family care responsibility, including those who have childcare responsibilities due to school closures, or those who are forced to care for loved ones who become ill, workers who are sick, quarantined, or immunocompromised and who do not have access to paid family and medical leave or are laid off, and first responders in the public health community who become ill or are quarantined due to exposure of COVID-19. Eligible employees should apply for unemployment benefits online at Michigan.gov/UIA or 1-866-500-0017. A factsheet on how to apply for benefits can be found [here](#).

Disaster Distress Helpline

Disaster Distress Helpline



1-800-985-5990



TEXT: "TalkWithUs" to 66746



DisasterDistress.samhsa.gov

SAMHSA

HHS.gov

Free Virtual Screening 616.391.2380

If you do not have a high-risk condition but want medical advice, call your healthcare provider or a virtual health service such as Spectrum Health Now and tell them you were exposed to someone with COVID-19. Your healthcare provider can help you decide if you need to be evaluated in person. There are currently no medications to treat COVID-19.

COVID-19 Screening

People who are concerned about COVID-19 symptoms such as fever and cough, and with or without difficulty breathing, or have questions, are **strongly discouraged** from going to the hospital or their doctor.

A strict protocol is in place to be tested: A provider must order a COVID-19 test and approval for that test includes a collaboration between the provider and the local health department. Do not go to Spectrum Health Gerber Memorial Hospital to request COVID-19 Screening. Please follow the Screening steps listed below.

STEP 1: Visit www.spectrumhealth.org/covid19 to stay informed and review your free screening options.

STEP 2: If you are in the state of Michigan and experiencing symptoms, get screened by calling our hotline at 616.391.2380 or by using our virtual chat found on spectrumhealth.org/covid19.

STEP 3: Spectrum Health providers will determine if you need further evaluation and, if so, provide instructions for specimen collection. *Please be aware that screening is not a COVID-19 test.

Prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. Information from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is available in [English](#), [Chinese](#), and [Spanish](#).

- **Clean your hands often. Scrub with soap for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer if you cannot wash.**
- **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. Learn [what to do if you are sick](#).
- **Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Immediately wash your hands.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.**

Always, call before you go and Use Telemedicine resources whenever possible

Availability of routine in-person services may be limited. Please access services as much as possible online or by phone. Many events, activities, and community services have been closed or altered services. Many healthcare facilities housing vulnerable populations are enforcing family and visitor restrictions or are self-quarantining their residents to protect them.

Continue to Avoid Large Gatherings

All residents in Newaygo County should practice social distancing measures as feasible including limiting in-person meetings, large work and personal gatherings, and limit non-essential travel outside your home and work areas.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Be prepared if there is COVID-19 in your household or a disruption of daily activities in your community. For example, maintain a supply of medications, food, and other essentials in your house. Consider alternative shopping options such as curbside pickups or online deliveries.
- Availability of in-person services may be limited. Access services as much as possible online or by phone.
- Additional cancellations of events, community gatherings, sporting events, and other in-person gatherings.
- Additional measures and guidance to be implement by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services in order to protect the public and limit the spread of the virus.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- **ONLY CALL 9-1-1 TO REPORT EMERGENCIES!** Emergency operators and phone lines are needed to support this incident, please continue to monitor Nixle for updates or call 2-1-1 (not 9-1-1) for general safety information.
- **DO NOT GO TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT FOR TESTING!** Please DO NOT show up at an emergency department or urgent care center unless it is a life threatening emergency and you need immediate medical care. Anyone with severe or life-threatening symptoms should call 911.
- **VIRTUAL SCREENING FOR COVID-19 IS AVAILABLE BY CALLING 616.391.2380!** Spectrum Health is offering free virtual COVID-19 screenings to those who have symptoms and may be concerned they have the virus. The purpose is to prevent the spread of illness by enabling people to seek the information they need from their homes, while making it easy and convenient for them.
- **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE RELEASED!** Continue monitoring your radio, Nixle, and Newaygo ES's Facebook Page for additional information.
- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!**

Additional resources for information monitoring –

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

State of Michigan: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>

Spectrum Health: <https://www.spectrumhealth.org/covid19>

District Public Health Department 10: <https://www.dhd10.org/>