

OTTAWA COUNTY COVID-19 RESPONSE



We have gathered this information and consider this to be just a snapshot of resources available to Ottawa County residents. If these resources do not meet your needs feel free to contact any one of our agencies, or the agency listed under the headings below.

We are committed to getting through this TOGETHER Ottawa County!

It is important to remember that when obtaining information on the COVID-19 pandemic, please do so from reliable sources such as local hospitals, emergency management and health departments, as well as Ohio Department of health <https://odh.ohio.gov/> or <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov> and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/>.



What to do if you feel sick:

If you are sick, but normally would NOT see your provider, please stay home and self-monitor.

If your symptoms get worse (fever, chills, difficulty breathing) call Magruder's triage line at 419-301-4304 for further instruction.

If you have a question regarding keeping your current appointment with your provider, please call the provider office ahead of time.

Please ask your provider if a telephone or virtual visit is an option. Magruder providers are currently seeing patients both virtually and by phone. The offices are instructing patients on making these visits successful during this time. Magruder providers are also making follow-up phone calls to not just sick patients, but the patients they know need to be checked in on for other health reasons.



Continued recommended guidelines:

Continue practicing Social Distancing. 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.



Ottawa County Health Department

<http://ottawahealth.org>

Click on the above link for an updated dashboard on cases in Ottawa County, and informational fliers related to our area's response to COVID-19.



Ottawa County Emergency Management

<https://www.co.ottawa.oh.us/index.php/covid-19-2/>

Click on the above link for useful links including links to Local and State organizations, FAQ, and archive of local press releases.



Magruder Hospital

Magruder Hospital has launched a COVID-19 website specific to current hospital operations, education and prevention, and other national and state resources:

<https://www.magruderhospital.com/covid-19-information>

- At this time no visitors are permitted and the Fulton Street Café is closed.
- The only entrances to the hospital are the Outpatient Entrance, open M – F 7am to 2pm, and the Emergency Room open 24/7.
- All outpatient lab work is being registered and drawn at 730 Jefferson Street in Port Clinton.
- A separate Respiratory Care Unit has been set up in a building next to the hospital's ER and there is a staffed triage line 419-301-4304 accessible by the public.
- The Physical Therapy Department has been made into a patient care area for any potential surge related to COVID 19.
- Magruder Hospital along with Fisher-Titus in Norwalk, Bellevue Hospital and Firelands Regional Medical Center in Sandusky, have been in a state of readiness even before the pandemic started, implementing screening measures and precautions in order to be ready to serve and protect our communities. The facilities are all in 24/7 Incident Command and remain in close contact with one another. Governor DeWine recently talked about how hospitals must work together – it's the only way we can get through this approaching peak. That is exactly what the North Coast Healthcare Collaborative has been doing because we know, together we are stronger. How we as a region are coming together to deal with this crisis bodes well for how we will come out of it.



Ottawa County Department of Job & Family Services

Ottawa County Dept. of Job & Family Services is offering one-time emergency assistance payments of \$200 per household resident. Eligible Households must have experienced a loss of income due to COVID-19 and be under 200% of the federal poverty guidelines (\$4367 / month for a family of four). Go to OttawaCountyJFS.org (<http://OttawaCountyJFS.org>) to apply to learn more.

Protecting Our Children



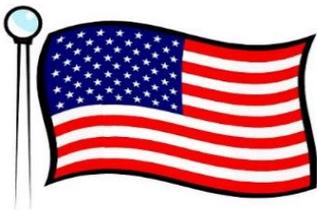
This is a difficult time for many reasons. Protecting children should not be one of them. Mandatory reporters of child abuse - such as teachers, coaches, child care providers, school counselors and school nurses, are not in their usual posts. Since our stay at home order started on March 22nd, we've seen about half as many reports of child abuse and neglect. That's not because it's not happening. That means the rest of us need to step up and check in on the children we know and love. So, if you suspect abuse or neglect, please call 855-OH-CHILD.



Unemployment Benefits

If you have been laid-off or your hours have been reduced, it is likely your first step should be filing for unemployment benefits. Recent federal legislation has increased this support by \$600 / week. Unemployment claims are at record levels so it is recommended that you use the web portal or phone line after hours to achieve the best results.

You may file at <http://Unemployment.Ohio.Gov> or call 1-877-644-6562.



Veteran Services

Are you a veteran or dependent of a veteran facing financial hardship? The Ottawa County Veterans Service provides temporary financial assistance to eligible veterans and their dependents who are facing hardship for basic living expenses, such as but not limited to: rent, mortgage, utilities, food, clothing, personal hygiene.

Call for additional details or to determine eligibility 419-898-2089.

<https://www.co.ottawa.oh.us/index.php/veterans-services/>



Utilities

Most municipalities, as well as many other utility providers, are eliminating shut-offs for non-payment and have begun offering flexibility on payments. **This does not eliminate a bill;** rather, it allows you financial flexibility if needed during the state of emergency.

Contact your municipality or utility provider to work out a payment structure that works best for you.

Please remember that while you will not be shut off for non-payment, it is critical that you contact your utility provider to make plans for payment of your bill:

- City of Port Clinton – 419-734-5522 Option 3
- Village of Oak Harbor – 419-898-5561
- Village of Marblehead – 419-798-4074
- Village of Elmore – 419-862-3089 or 419-862-3454
- Village of Put-in-Bay – 419-285-8545
- Village of Genoa – 419-855-7791
- Ottawa County Regional Water Customers – 419-734-6725



Food Assistance

A wide variety of food assistance is available throughout Ottawa County, including food delivery, food pantries and informal assistance.

Bistro 163 Meal Pick-Up in Bistro 163 parking lot in Port Clinton Wednesday – Saturday from 4-6 p.m. Delivery is also available, especially to senior citizens needing assistance. Anyone needing food assistance may call the Salvation Army at 419-732-2769 for information.

A complete Food Resource Summary is listed at the following link:

<https://www.thebeacon.net/under-con/>

School Meals Assistance



Many school districts are offering free meal pick up service for school-aged children. Please call your local school board office for details:

- Port Clinton City School District: 419-732-2102
- Benton-Carroll-Salem Schools: 419-898-6219
- Danbury Schools: 419-798-5185
- Genoa Area Schools: 419-855-7741
- Woodmore Schools: 419-862-1070

Ottawa County
**Senior
Resources**

Ottawa County Senior Resources

<http://www.co.ottawa.oh.us> Click on Senior Resources button left-hand side of the page. Phone 419-898-6459. All senior centers are closed until further notice. Meals are offered through our "Grab and Go" program. **You must RSVP to your closest center by 10 a.m. one day prior to pick up.**

- Genoa 419-855-4491
- Elmore 419-862-3874
- Oak Harbor 419-898-2800
- Port Clinton 419-734-1418
- Danbury 419-798-4101
- Put-in-Bay 419-285-5501

Our Home Delivered Meal program will continue to operate as scheduled. Due to the need to keep our seniors safe, we ask that seniors prepare a place just inside their doorway or entrance where the home delivered meal may be placed. Meal Delivery Drivers will practice social distancing guidelines and will continue to monitor the well-being of recipients via visualization or verbal communication through the door.



Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is offering rent and utility assistance for those facing eviction or shut-off. Call 419-732-2769 to find out more information or to determine your eligibility.



Small Business Assistance

<https://www.sba.gov>

Small business guidance on the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), the Paycheck Protection Program and other available resources. Businesses are encouraged to contact their local lender or certified SBA lender for assistance.



Ottawa County Improvement Corp.

OCIC has developed an interactive COVID-19 Resource packet for quick and easy access to local, state and federal resources and programs. Go to <https://ocic.biz/coronavirus/> to view these resources.



Employment Opportunities

A new employment website specifically geared toward matching essential businesses with job seekers who are willing and able to work as an essential employee. Businesses and job seekers may visit <https://Coronavirus.ohio.gov/JobSearch> to post and search for jobs.



Ottawa County

A proud partner of the American Job Center network

Ohio Means Jobs

Ottawa County is available to assist individuals find employment, create resumes, prepare for interviews and more. Job seekers may access

<https://ohiomeansjobs-ottawacounty.com/index.php/coronavirus-notice/> to conduct job searches. For help, call 419-707-8635 or email ASKOMJ@ocic.biz.



Mental Health Recovery Board of Erie and Ottawa County

Office Phone: 419-627-1908

COVID-19 has many people feeling distressed. This is very normal in times of crisis. You can manage these feelings and try to keep yourself healthy by taking some simple steps. Bayshore Counseling and Firelands Counseling are open and clients may select to call-in versus face-to-face meeting if they wish.

24/7 Assistance

Crisis Hotline 1-800-826-1306

Crisis Text Line – Text: 4hope to 741741

[NEW - First Responder Help Line - 419-557-5835](https://www.4hope.org/)



Voting in Ottawa County

Primary election is postponed until Tuesday April 28, 2020 and you can only vote by absentee ballot. There will be no in-person voting. You may go to the website: <https://voteohio.gov> to request an absentee ballot or contact the Ottawa County Board of Elections at 419-898-3071



THE OTTAWA COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS IS PARTNERING WITH LOCAL GROCERY STORES TO HELP DISTRIBUTE MAIL-IN BALLOT APPLICATIONS

VOTERS CAN PICK UP MAIL-IN BALLOT APPLICATIONS AT LOCAL GROCERY STORES

- APRIL 25** APPLICATIONS FOR MAIL-IN BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY TODAY
- APRIL 27** MAIL-IN BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY TODAY
- APRIL 28** BALLOTS MUST BE DELIVERED OR RECEIVED BY 7:30 PM



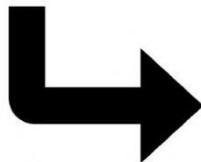
Absentee ballot applications may be picked up at the service desks of three local grocery stores –

- Community IGA in Oak Harbor
- Bassett's Market in Port Clinton
- Miller's Market in Genoa

The application may then be mailed to
Ottawa County Board of Elections
8444 W. SR 163
Oak Harbor, OH 43449

You may also place in BOE drop-box outside the door.

You can also now create your own absentee ballot request and mail it to local Board of Elections.



**PLEASE REMEMBER:
All absentee ballots
MUST BE postmarked no later
than Monday April 27, 2020.**



Create your own vote-by-mail request!

- List your:**
 - Full name
 - Date of birth
 - Full registration address including county
 - Address where ballot should be mailed if different from your registration address
 - One of the these: Ohio driver's license number, last four of your Social Security Number or include a copy of an acceptable form of ID
 - Phone number (optional, but suggested)
 - Email address (optional, but suggested)
- Write:** "I'm a qualified elector and I'm requesting an absentee ballot for the 3/17/2020 Ohio primary"
- Specify if you want:**
 - a Democratic, Republican, Libertarian or Issues only ballot (choose only one)
- Sign and Date** with today's date

Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State



2020 Census

The 2020 Census results help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year. **You can still respond!** April 1st is a reference date not a deadline to respond to the census, and **YOUR RESPONSE MATTERS!** The census can shape many different aspects of our community.

If you have not already done so, please go to <https://2020census.gov> and complete your survey.



Scams

Bad news can become even worse news for people suffering through the explosion of the coronavirus pandemic. Scammers are always eager to use a new tactic to rob people of their money, whether it's tricking them into making a donation, downloading a virus or stealing personal information.

You won't be asked to give money or any personal information to receive your government stimulus check. For information regarding government stimulus checks, and updates on scam information visit the Federal Trade Commission website at <https://www.ftc.gov>

Follow these simple tips to avoid being scammed:

- Hang up on robocalls. Don't press any numbers, simply hang up.
- NEVER click on links, open emails or respond to text messages from sources you don't know.
- Ignore online offers for vaccinations. There currently are no vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, lozenges or other prescription or over-the-counter products available online or in stores that has the best chance of treating or curing coronavirus, there is no simple answer.
- Do your homework when it comes to donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites. Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, do not do it.



Ottawa Co. Community Foundation Initiates **Rapid Response Effort**

The Ottawa County Community Foundation has created a Rapid Response account. This OCCF Rapid Response effort will help support immediate needs of non-profits in Ottawa County as they strive to fill the basic needs of economically vulnerable populations caused by closure and cancellations related to COVID-19. We welcome donations of any amount and all contributions qualify as charitable deductions. Those who wish to make contributions may do so either online or by printing off a donation form and mailing in with your check at the following website: <http://www.ottawaccf.org/>. For non-profit organizations that serve Ottawa County residents and who are incurring additional expenses during this crisis, you may also download the guidelines and information about this funding opportunity.



Visitors to Ottawa County – Plan now. Visit later.

The health and safety of our guests and all who live and work in the Shores & Islands region is our top priority. We are asking you to Plan Now. Visit Later. Only essential businesses and some carryout and delivery options are currently available for local residents. We are all in this together, and while travel is not possible now, we look forward to the day when we can welcome you back.

It's a difficult time. There's a lot of fear and uncertainty. We don't know where we'll be in a few weeks—or even months. But there's one thing we are sure of and that is how the State of Ohio and Ottawa County have responded to COVID-19 by encouraging everyone to follow the directives in Ohio Governor Mike DeWine's orders. Our residents are following these orders and we ask those considering visiting Ottawa County to do the same. For more information and a list of virtual activities in our area visit the Lake Erie Shores and Islands website: <https://www.shoresandislands.com>

Together Ohio – Together Ottawa County



Officials are developing strategies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and the concerns and uncertainties it brings, but they cannot flatten the curve on their own.

Every resident has a part to play in helping to save lives. For many, this will mean staying at home, practicing Social Distancing and making many sacrifices.

For others, it will mean taking care of the most vulnerable among us or providing healthcare, food, education, information, or the things we need to stay safe at home.



We are all in this together. We can do this!

