

Fairfax Update

Special Edition

During this crisis, the Town will be sending out weekly newsletters with reminders and updates on Covid-19 and Town services.



May 3, 2020

A Message from the Mayor to the Community

Dear Fairfax Community,

As many of you know by now, in line with the current State Executive Orders, our Marin County Public Health Officer has issued a new order effective May 4th, which extends the Shelter In Place until May 31st with some minor modifications for certain sectors.

For some, this modification may ease the immense financial hardship, but for most members of the Fairfax community and our downtown merchants, the stress has intensified. In support of our local business community, we have launched a new website to support our local downtown retailers and restaurants called FairfaxOpenForBusiness.com Please visit the website to see the many ways you can support our beloved businesses.

There are so many tangible ways to contribute to our Town, but there are some wounds people are nursing which are less visible from the outside.

Yesterday I had a conversation with a friend who's daughter is a graduating high school senior. I was struck by the depth of her sadness. Her story of her daughter's life interrupted is currently being shared by hundreds of our students and their families who are reaching milestones, marking important rites of passage. These commencements celebrate the start of a next chapter. Families are brilliantly inventing ways to celebrate their children's

accomplishments, just as we as a community are inventing ways to connect and support each other from a distance, co-authoring our own parallel next chapter. We will write a powerful book of resilience and re-emergence if we all contribute something positive to the evolving story, and recognize that all of us are struggling to some degree with overarching unknowns and the pain of life interrupted. We are all in this together, now more than ever.

I share an excerpt I recently read from a teacher providing wise counsel to her student's parents:

"...Right now I just need you to share your calm. Share your strength, and share your laughter with your children. In the years ahead, your children won't remember most of the lessons they learned through their devices, rather they will remember if they felt safe, if they felt loved, and all the silly moments they spent with you during these historical times".

This wisdom is applicable to all of us regardless of the role we play in this world at this time, because as we begin to plan for re-opening and as we are establishing new support systems both financial and personal for those who are experiencing extreme loss, we have to remember that each of us makes choices each day that have a profound and lasting effect on our community. This wisdom can be applied right now.

This is a defining time, and the way we work together to boost each other up, and the personal choices we make will determine the path, the pace and the process by which we emerge from this.

The County order requires us to wear facial coverings in all indoor and outdoor public places, with some exceptions for outdoor exercise. The 6' physical distancing requirements apply even if your face is covered. Please protect yourselves and do the right thing for your community.

As the State and County walk the tight rope making the difficult determination between re-opening too early and re-opening too late, we can each as individuals choose to go above and beyond to protect one another and Shelter in place. We know it is working.

Fairfax is rising to the occasion. A couple of this week's very uniquely Fairfax highlights:

-- Thank you to the Dominga masked choir for producing the best possible live and safely distanced rendition of 'Accentuate the positive, illuminate the negative' by Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer.

-- Thank you to Rudy Contratti, Fairfax Public Works who mowed the Bolinas Park grass today and described to me that the way he created the cut lines in the grass with energy flowing off of the Redwoods, was like a New York Mandala. He dubbed that Mandala "The hang on to hope".

Hang on to Hope everyone.

With very best wishes for health and strength,
Renee Goddard

Mayor, Town of Fairfax



New Shelter In Place Order Issued

The seven Bay Area Public Health Officers who ordered a Shelter-In-Place in mid-March will extend the orders through May 31 while some restrictions are eased and tools to strengthen containment of COVID-19 are put into place. The social distancing intervention has slowed the increase of new cases and prevented the anticipated medical surge. As restrictions are eased, it is critical to ensure that growth of cases can be sufficiently contained to protect the health and safety of our community.

Marin County is included among the jurisdictions extending the [Shelter-In-Place order](#). In addition, Marin County will also extend its Public Health Orders surrounding [Park Closures](#) and Restrictions on Use of [Short-Term Rental Orders](#). All three orders take effect Monday, May 4. Marin's Public Health Order concerning use of face coverings does not presently have an end date and will remain in place until further notice.

Under the new Shelter-In-Place order, construction activities, certain businesses that operate primarily outdoors, and some outdoor activities will be allowed to resume with specific conditions. The new Shelter-In-Place order covers everyone living or working in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Santa Clara as well as the City of Berkeley, an independent public health jurisdiction, with minor variations among jurisdictions.

Mark your calendar for your
SPRING 2020
CURBSIDE CLEAN-UP

Specifically for customers in the
Town of Fairfax R3.

THE WEEK OF
MAY 4 - 8

On your regularly scheduled
collection day **ONLY** the
week of May 4-8, 2020,
you may put out up to 14
bags of extra material to be
collected at no extra cost.

See reverse for important instructions.

**THIS IS THE PERFECT TIME FOR
A SPRING YARD CLEAN UP!**



*Leave your extra
bagged yard waste
out for us to collect
so it can be turned
into organic compost.*

Curbside Clean-up service is
proudly offered to you by:



MARIN SANITARY SERVICE

CHIPPER DAYS SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUMMER!

The Town will once again be offering chipper days during the summer months. The schedule is as follows:

June 20 & 21 9-3 Cascade neighborhood Doc Edgar Park

June 27 & 28 9-3 Scenic/Manor Hill neighborhood Olema & Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

July 11 9-3 Downtown - Pavilion parking lot

July 25 & 26 Deer Park - collection to be done at Doc Edgar Park

The availability of pick up service will be determined at a later date. Please [check website](#) for updates.

FAIRFAX BUSINESSES Are Ready to Serve You

Did you know that many Fairfax restaurants, shops, and grocery stores are still open, providing goods and services to our community? Discover who is open and how to access them at the new and easy-to-use website: www.fairfaxopenforbusiness.com, where you can also join an email list to receive specials and updates.

2020 Census

It's not too late to respond to the 2020 Census while being safe and practicing social distancing at home. Once you have responded, please encourage your family, friends and loved ones to complete the census, too.

Go to census.ca.gov

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Virtual Town Council Meeting

May 6th
7pm

We will be having our second virtual council meeting this Wednesday. [Click here for the agenda](#) and how to participate.

We have created a [Virtual Public Meetings](#) hub on our home page to facilitate participation as we all adapt to this format for meetings.

Fairfax Community Farmers Market Returns!

May 6th
4-8pm

The market starts the first week of May and runs through mid October! Of course there will be safety measures in place to keep the farmers and the community safe.

This just in from the farmer's market organizers:

"In this time of great need I am happy to say we will be able to offer our CalFresh customers Market Match (good for fresh fruits and veggies only) in the amount of \$20 instead of our usual \$10 at the farmers' markets in Fairfax. CalFresh customers can receive a dollar for dollar match up to \$20 good for fresh fruits and veggies. This means \$40 worth of food for \$20 off their CalFresh card each market day." - Kelly Smith

This is in honor of CalFresh awareness month and is only for the month of May.

[Click here to learn more!](#)

Fairfax Program to Match Local Residents in Need with Volunteers to Assist Them

The Town's 1-to-1 volunteer matching service to support and protect people in need during this difficult time is going strong.

If you are a **resident** who needs extra help to get through this time, or a resident willing to volunteer to help, please click [here](#).

Sign Up to Receive Updates From the Town

We encourage residents and businesses to [sign-up/subscribe](#) to receive a variety information from the Town such as newsletters, Town Council agendas, and updates on such projects as Marinda Heights. Just pick the ones you want to receive.

Town of Fairfax COVID-19 Resources Page

Visit our dedicated webpage:

www.townoffairfax.org/coronavirus-updates-resources

- Information about Building and Planning services that are still available as well as guidelines.
- Links to the EDD, SBA and Utility Companies.
- Online classes thru Fairfax Recreation and Age Friendly Fairfax.
- Information and resources are updated regularly so check back often.

#fairfaxforward

During this COVID-19 period the Town recognizes the many creative ways community members are supporting each other. We have started #fairfaxforward to share the spirit, mindset and momentum of the Fairfax community. It considers the legacy of our town and the forward thinking of our residents.

Show us your flair and tag #fairfaxforward!

Join Our Mailing List

