



Garnett, Kansas
131 West Main Street
(785) 448-5496
www.simplygarnett.com

Update on COVID-19

March 16, 2020

The Anderson County Public Health Officer (PHO) has issued a recommendation (see attached) that all businesses that are able to close, starting Tuesday (tomorrow) morning, should do so. The recommendation is for the remainder of the week (3/17/2020 - 3/22/2020).

The PHO is recommending that essential businesses, such as gas stations and grocery stores remain open at this time. If you are able to stay home from work, the Public Health Officer recommends you do so. Everyone, especially school aged children, should limit contact with others and use their best judgement.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are as follows: fever; cough; shortness of breath.

If you have any of the above mentioned symptoms please make sure you call prior to going to a clinic, hospital, emergency room, or health department.

As for the City of Garnett, we will still be here to answer your calls and communicate with you as best we can. Our essential services will continue to be provided, while some will likely be postponed (as have the rec center and sports programs). We apologize in advance for any inconvenience these delays or cancellations may cause.

As of this moment, Franklin County is still the closest confirmed case of this virus. All county hospitals and nursing homes are on lockdown (not allowing visitors), including the City's housing authority properties.

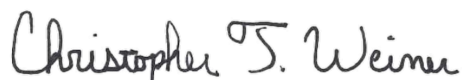
The Anderson County Commission has issued an emergency disaster declaration in response to the virus outbreak. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued a recommendation that all events or social gatherings of fifty people or more be postponed or cancelled. Our Governor, Laura Kelly, just issued an Executive Order banning any such gatherings of more than fifty people. President Trump just issued a modified recommendation, bringing that gathering limit to ten people.

Thankfully, here in Garnett and Anderson County, we have yet to see a confirmed case of this virus. This will unfortunately, likely change. Please take care to follow the guidelines previously released and keep yourself and those around you safe. Please refrain from attending large gatherings of people and actively engage in distancing yourself from others (try to maintain a six-foot distance [from the CDC]). As with any illness and general hygiene standards, make sure to thoroughly wash your hands (at least 20 seconds); and avoid those who are ill.

This time period is likely to be significantly challenging for our local businesses. You may still engage in this social distancing and patron your favorite restaurants and businesses. Call ahead and see if they will be willing to offer curbside pickup. See if you can purchase a gift card online or over the phone for later use to help them through this challenging time. We are all neighbors and we need each other. When we emerge from this difficult period, we still want our local restaurants and stores to be here.

Our tremendous Garnett community has not even been touched yet by this virus. But by caring for each other and preparing for this before it hits, we can reduce the negative impact on our community and emerge even stronger.

Thank you all for being a part of this wonderful community and take care!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher T. Weiner". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Christopher T. Weiner
City Manager