



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Updated: City of Fountain Inn COVID-19 Response**

The City of Fountain has been hard at work monitoring COVID-19 and its impact on our local community. On March 15, the City issued its first COVID-19 Response. Since then, the Governor has issued and rescinded numerous Executive Orders.

**The City encourages all residents to take the threat of COVID-19 seriously.** There are confirmed cases in and around our community. When leaving your home, individuals should practice “social distancing” and maintain a minimum of six (6) feet of separation from others. Masks are encouraged to be worn.

Our Police Department has been granted authority by the Governor to enforce the orders issued and will be responding to instances where precautions are not being taken or orders are being ignored.

Additionally, the City of Fountain has updated their COVID-19 Response regarding city operations to include the following items:

### **CITY OPERATIONS - JUNE 1, 2020**

- **Public access to most City facilities is no longer restricted to appointment-only.**
  - **City Council:** All meetings of City Council are being live streamed for the public to view and hear – you can view the video recording of these meetings at [fountaininn.org/news](http://fountaininn.org/news).
  - In-person attendance of these meetings may still be restricted, check the city website and meeting agendas for information.
- **Municipal Court:** Following orders by the SC Supreme Court, all court hearings are still postponed, and the Municipal Court Lobby is still closed to the public.
- **Public Safety** operations will continue as normal - however firefighters and police officers may take additional precautions to ensure safety, especially when responding to medical calls.
- **Public Works:** Collection of trash, recycling, and yard debris may continue to experience delays. The City is no longer using labor from the Department of Corrections, and we have implemented safety measures for our crews, all of which are impacting our route schedules. Additionally:
  - Please ensure all trash is bagged and inside your container.

- June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 5<sup>th</sup> is the final week for Public Works to pick up eligible annual “May Spring Cleaning” items. All bulky items left at the curb after this week will be the responsibility of the homeowner to dispose of by their own means.
- Please ensure your garbage and/or recycling container is placed at the curb facing the correct way. The hinges should be facing the home.
- **All City Parks including the downtown splash pad are now OPEN to the public.**
- **All Recreation sports leagues have resumed.**
- **Fountain Inn Natural Gas will** proceed with cut-offs for natural gas service for non-payment situations on July 1. Customers are still encouraged to pay their bills online or by using the drop box at the FING office. However, the drive thru and lobby are now open.
- **The Activities Center** will re-open on June 15 for Senior Adults only from 7:00 a.m. – noon. It will be closed to the public from noon to 1:00 p.m. for cleaning/sanitizing and then open only for volleyball programming from 1:00-3:30 p.m.
  - Exercise classes will resume on June 22 following the same schedule as above
  - No seniors or senior programming (quilting, painting, puzzles, etc.) will be allowed after noon.
  - Renovations to the Activities Center will be starting this summer
- Our **Police Department** will continue to monitor seniors enrolled in our Senior Watch program and coordinate with other City staff on helping to assist those in need.
- **Permits for events** will now be considered by the City for events on public property. This includes facility rentals, park rentals, and the like.
- **Events:**
  - The Farmers Market is now open every Saturday morning from 8:00 a.m. to noon in Commerce Park.
  - Sounds of Summer (Friday Night Concert Series) kicks off on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Commerce Park. Patrons are asked to bring their own blanket to sit on, even with chairs, to help maintain social distancing - other measures will be posted on-site.
  - The date and time for the Emmanuel Sullivan Sports Complex Ribbon Cutting is still TBD.
  - Younts Center for Performing Arts events have been postponed or canceled (check their website for details).
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration will be on Main Street from 6:00-9:30 p.m.
  - For questions about upcoming community events not listed above, please reach out to appropriate city staff.

## **PUBLIC PRECAUTIONS**

- Individuals should wash their hands and sanitize surfaces often.
- Masks are encouraged to be worn out in public by the CDC and SC DHEC.
- Practice appropriate “social distancing” of at least six (6) feet of separation if you are out in public.
- If you are sick, please stay home and contact your doctor.
- Check on your elderly neighbors and those in need near you.

***Additional Resources:*** SC DHEC: [scdhec.gov/covid19](https://scdhec.gov/covid19) | CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html> | City Website: [fountaininn.org](https://www.fountaininn.org)