

March 23, 2020

Greetings,

We are in unprecedented and uncertain times as we deal with the impacts of the Coronavirus; but I want to urge people not to panic, and instead be part of the solution. No doubt, these are tough times—but we will get through it together.

If you must be out, please continue to protect yourself and others around you. Please stay home and away from others if you are sick. Cover your cough/sneeze with your elbow or tissue, and everyone should wash their hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds (or use hand sanitizer if soap isn't available). Practice social distancing, with at least 6 feet of distance from others. When grocery shopping, please only purchase what you need stockpiling is not necessary.

Remember to get your information from a credible source, like the CDC and the AZDHS, and please make sure sources are credible before sharing with others to prevent misinformation and panic.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact my office with questions, comments or concerns at (602) 262-7441 or council.district.3@phoenix.gov.

Respectfully,

Debra Stark Councilwoman City of Phoenix **Council District 3**









City of Phoenix Impacted Services Update

Read this page in **Spanish**. Lea esta página en **español** (PDF)

Please see below for a list of impacted city services. Continue to check for daily updates at phoenix.gov/newsroom.

Downtown City Buildings Are Now Accessed by Appointment Only

In an effort to continue providing necessary city services, while protecting the health and safety of customers and employees in our facilities, the city of Phoenix is taking additional measures to limit foot traffic at the city's downtown buildings. Beginning Monday, March 23, only people with appointments for service will have access to **Phoenix City Hall, the Calvin C. Goode Municipal Building, and the Public Transit Department administration building**. Read more about the changes. You can also download a contact list to make appointments (PDF) for city services.

City Services and Facilities Currently Closed or Impacted

Residents with questions about city services and programs affected by Coronavirus precautionary measures can call **(602) 262-3111** or e-mail <u>contactus@phoenix.gov</u>.

- Alarms Detail No walk-in customers accepted. Call (602) 534-0322 for questions about false alarm or permit inquires and payments. <u>Read detailed Alarm</u> <u>impacted services statement</u>
- Convention Center All events at the Phoenix Convention Center and Venues
 (Orpheum Theatre and Symphony Hall) have been <u>postponed or rescheduled</u>
 <u>through May 10</u>. Visit your conference or event organizer's website for event
 updates and rescheduled dates. No in-person or phone sales are being taken at the
 Phoenix Convention Center Ticket Office at this time. <u>Read detailed Convention</u>
 Center impacted services statement
- City Council Meetings City Council meetings are currently <u>being held audience-free</u>. Meetings can be streamed online, and residents can provide comments via email or phone.
- City Hall Services by appointment only
- City of Phoenix Retirees The Phoenix Nationwide office is currently closed, in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) health crisis. Customers can <u>schedule a</u> <u>phone appointment</u> to avoid long hold times. Nationwide recommends retirees contact their <u>local retirement representative</u> to address concerns or changes to their investment plan

- **Community Meetings** Community meetings and outreach events in city buildings are temporarily suspended and city staff will not be attending community meetings during this time.
- **Education Programs** Office of Youth and Education's AARP literary programs are cancelled.
- **Fingerprinting** The City of Phoenix is temporarily suspending fingerprinting services. If you need immediate fingerprinting please use a 3rd party vendor.
- Head Start Home visits are suspended.
- Housing Read detailed Housing Department impacted services statement
- **Human Resources** New recruitments and hiring processes will be limited to critical positions citywide; any job interviews will be conducted by video conference. In-person recruitment, selection processes, and new hire events will be temporarily postponed.
- Job Training Workshops Workshops are <u>canceled this week</u>
- Libraries All Phoenix Public Library locations and book drops are temporarily closed. All programming is also suspended. Electronic resources are available online at http://phoenixpubliclibrary.org. Read detailed Library impacted services statement
- Municipal Court Trials are being <u>continued or cancelled</u>.
- Parks All indoor recreation facilities are currently closed. All programming is also suspended. Large gatherings and events of 10 or more people on city park property are canceled or postponed. Adult and youth sports leagues have been postponed. All Phoenix Afterschool Center (PAC) sites are closed (these sites are in schools and will be closed as long as that school is closed). Pueblo Grande Museum is closed. The following city facilities operated by partner organizations are closed Phoenix Center for the Arts, Thunderbird Arts Center, Irish Cultural Center, North Mountain Visitor Center, South Mountain Environmental Education Center (SMEEC), American Family Fields of Phoenix, Phoenix Municipal Stadium, Arizona Science Center and Heritage Square. Phoenix Zoo is closed. March 19 registration for summer youth camps is postponed until further notice. Read detailed Parks & Recreation impacted services statement
- Planning and Development Department Services will be offered online, by telephone or by appointment only. PDD inspection requests will follow modified practices. Staff has been redeployed to create Remote Customer Service Counters and will answer questions about development and zoning questions by phone or e-mail from your home or private workspace. Find a list of direct phone numbers and e-mail addresses for appropriate staff. If you're unsure who to contact or have general questions about services call (602) 262-7811 or email. Online project tools

are available and <u>new projects and resubmittals</u> can be done electronically. If you have paper plans currently in queue and need assistance to submit plans electronically, please contact the Electronic Plan Review (EPR) Triage Team at (602) 534-5933 or email. Review (EPR) Triage Team at (602) 534-5933 or email.

- **Property Management Unit** Only five people will be allowed in the lobby at one time. To facilitate the process, please come prepared with the <u>Property Release Form</u> already completed.
- **Police Public Records** By appointment only, no walk-in customers. To schedule an appointment, call (602) 262-1885 or use the <u>online portal</u>.
- Public Transit Centers Closed Read detailed Public Transit impacted services statement
- **Senior Centers** All 15 city Senior Centers are closed. Senior Center members can coordinate in-home meal service with their Senior Center Manager.
- Street Transportation Right-of-Way Management is not processing any special event or block party permits for events taking place through at least May 4. Guidance will be revised as needed.
- **Vehicle Impounds** Closed to walk-in customers. Call (602) 495-2096 for more details.
- VITA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program services are suspended.
- **Volunteer Programs** All city volunteer programs, with the exception of critical public safety programs, are being suspended for the next two weeks.

City Services Still in Operation

- 911, Police, Fire
- Airport operations Some European and Canadian impacts. <u>Read detailed</u>
 <u>Airport impacted services statement</u>
- City Services Customer Pay Stations
- Finance and Procurement
- Outdoor City Parks
- Public Transit, including Dial-a-Ride Service information is available via the <u>Valley Metro website</u>. <u>Read detailed Public Transit impacted services</u> statement
- Trash and Recycling Services Read detailed Public Works impacted services statement
- Street Maintenance Read detailed Streets impacted services statement

• Water and Wastewater – Read detailed Water Department impacted services statement

City Services Still Available Online:

The city is also continuing to provide access to a variety of online services.

- Building Inspections
- PHXTV Streaming Watch City Council meetings and regular programming
- City Services Bills
- Contact Mayor & City Council Members
- Crime Victim Services
- Equal Opportunity Department Case Management
- Flight Path Noise
- Fraud Reporting
- Graffiti Removal Requests
- Housing Programs
- Library Services
- <u>Neighborhood Services Programs</u> While staff is not currently attending community meetings, services can still be requested via email and phone.
- Phoenix C.A.R.E.S. about Homelessness reporting
- PHX Pay Online
- Police Public Records Requests
- Report Abandoned Shopping Carts
- Report Fence in Disrepair
- Report Illegal Signs
- Report Inoperable Vehicles
- Report Litter + Debris
- Report Non-Dust-Proof Parking
- Report Non-Emergency Crime
- Report Non-Permitted Construction
- Report Outside Storage
- Report Property Violations
- Report Traffic Signal Issue
- Report Unsecured Structures
- Report Water Leak
- Report Weeds or Dead Plants
- Request Trash, Recycle or Green Organics Container
- Roll-Off Rentals
- Solid Waste Diversion Programs
- Start/Stop/Transfer Water Services or Trash
- Street Light Repair Requests
- Street Maintenance
- <u>Public Transit Services</u> Transit still operating. <u>Transit Centers are closed.</u>
- Utility Permit
- Water Services

Questions on city services during COVID-19? Email us at contactus@phoenix.gov or call (602)262-3111

Residents with questions about city services and programs affected by these changes can call (602) 262-3111 or e-mail contactus@phoenix.gov.

Governor Ducey Announces Latest COVID-19 Actions

On Friday, March 20, Governor Doug Ducey announced several actions to combat the spread of the virus. Please read about them in the links below.

English: https://azgovernor.gov/governor/news/2020/03/governor-ducey-announces-latest-covid-19-actions

Spanish: https://azgovernor.gov/sites/default/files/spanish_covid-19_actions.pdf

Effective March 20, 2020 Due to State and Local Order

ALL LOCATIONS AFFECTED:



- Restaurants
- Indoor Gyms and Fitness Clubs
- Bars
- Movie Theaters

RESPONSIBILITIES OF AFFECTED BUSINESSES:

- Close Access to On-site Dining
- Closure Until Further Notice for Gyms, Bars, and Movie Theaters

ALLOWED ACTIVITIES:



- Drive-thru Options
- Delivery Options
- Pick-up Options

LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO SLOW THE SPREAD. PLEASE CONTINUE TO:



- Stay Home if You are Sick
- Wash Your Hands
- Disinfect Surfaces
- Avoid Touching Your Face
- Don't Allow Social Gatherings of More than 10 People

Maricopa County COVID-19 Hotline

Hotline: To answer COVID-19 questions from health care providers and the general public, call **1-844-542-8201**.

More information: https://www.maricopa.gov/5460/Coronavirus-Disease-2019.

Support Local Businesses While Maintaining Social Distancing

- Support mom-and-pop shops
- Order take-out
- Buy gift cards
- Order merchandise
- Make a donation
- Tip well

(Tips shared from the Sunnyslope Food & Music Crawl Facebook page)

Local First put together a list of Local Business Offers and Resources for Businesses: https://www.localfirst.com/blog/entry/support-local-while-keeping-a-safe-distance#.Xnk200BFzIX.

Arizona Foodie Mag is selling shirts, where 100% of proceeds will go directly toward participating restaurants to help them financially take care of their employees. They also have a "Tip Jar," where 100% of proceeds will also go to the participating restaurants. Learn more here: https://www.arizonafoodiemag.com/online-store.

Human Services Emergency Assistance Services

The Human Services Department offers a variety of social services to low-income households, experiencing crisis.

Family Services Centers are operated 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Phone calls accepted beginning at **8 a.m.** on **Mondays only**. When a holiday falls on a Monday,



appointments will be taken beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the next business day. Households with a member age 60 or over may contact the **Senior Services Intake line at 602-262-6631** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To schedule an emergency assistance appointment, call **602-534-AIDE(2433)** or **1-866-882-1778**. More information:

https://www.phoenix.gov/humanservices/programs/emergency

APS Bill Assistance

APS announced they will not be shutting off power for non-payment, and they're waiving late fees as well during this uncertain time. APS has also set up a Customer Support Fund.



Call (602) 371-7171 or (800) 253-9405 weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Please find the letter from APS' President and COO with more information here: https://www.aps.com/en/About/Our-Company/Our-Commitment-to-Safety/COVID-19

Additional APS resources: aps.com/support.

SRP Bill Assistance

SRP will not be turning off customers' power for non-payment during the COVID-19 pandemic. They will also waive all late payment fees. This applies to both residential and commercial customers.

Call (602) 236-8888 24/7, even on holidays.

More information: https://www.srpnet.com/about/customer-assistance.aspx

Coronavirus (COVID-19): Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources

Small business owners in all U.S. states and territories are currently eligible to apply for a low-interest loan due to Coronavirus (COVID-19). Individual businesses can be eligible for up to \$2 million through the program.

More information:

https://www.sba.gov/page/coronaviruscovid-19-small-business-quidance-loan-resources



"Flushable Wipes" Are Not Flushable

While many people are having a difficult time finding and purchasing toilet paper, it is causing an existing problem to become an even bigger one. Despite what packaging says, flushable wipes are in fact not flushable. Only the three P's belong in the toilet: pee, poo, and (toilet) paper. All other items should be properly disposed in the trash.



You may be asking yourself, why is this such a big deal? We operate the Southwest's largest wastewater treatment plant so it's really important our infrastructure remains up and running smoothly during this healthcare emergency. In our wastewater treatment system, anything that is not the three P's will clog our pumps and lift stations that help transport wastewater to the treatment plant. It is a messy job for our staff to clean up.

Next time you go to flush, remember that there is no such thing as a flushable wipe and remember to only flush the three P's: pee, poo, and (toilet) paper.

Using Parks and Open Space While Maintaining Social Distancing



Using parks and open spaces--as long as it is safe to do so--can have mental and health benefits, especially in uncertain and stressful times. Please continue practicing social distancing, please do not overcrowd trails, continue taking precautions, and please do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting any symptoms.

Please see the recommendations from the National Recreation and Park Association on how to social distance when enjoying local parks and trails: https://www.nrpa.org/about-national-recreation-and-park-association/press-room/NRPA-statement-on-using-parks-and-open-space-while-maintaining-social-distancing/

PHXTV Classroom

Recognizing that students across Arizona will be looking for things to do in the coming weeks, the city of Phoenix's digital classroom, PHXTV Classroom, has expanded its programming while kids are home during the Coronavirus national emergency.

The PHXTV Classroom video program will stream live on Phoenix.gov/PHXTV from 9 - 11 a.m. daily, with a replay from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. PHXTV Classroom will



feature a variety of stories, with different programming each day, on history, science and art, including:

- The 21st Century Turning Points in U.S. History Learn about events that transformed America.
- Travel Through History Students can experience visiting places around the world.
- Backyard Bugs and Other Arthropods Discovery of nature and insects for younger kids.

If online access is unavailable, this programming will also be broadcast on PHXTV, which is accessible through Cox Cable channel 11 and CenturyLink 8005. View the programming schedule now! To find the latest information about local education stories produced by PHXTV Classroom, visit the PHXNewsroom. To submit story ideas for the PHXTV Classroom about youth and education in Phoenix, send an email: PHXTVClassroom@Phoenix.gov.

Gov. Ducey, Superintendent Kathy Hoffman announce all AZ schools closed through April 10

Announcement:

https://azgovernor.gov/governor/blog/2020/03/open-letter-arizona-families-educators-school-leaders-and-education-march-20-2020

Maricopa County School Feeding Sites:

 $\frac{https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1kQw8XFCrtpXMm2vm9EsyEl6qOjhmGMi9VU9J7}{1yClA/edit\#qid=0}$

Washington Elementary School District to Distribute Free Meals to Children During Closure

During the statewide closure of schools March 23 – 27, Washington Elementary School District will provide free breakfast and lunch in one quick stop. From 10:30 a.m. to noon at the sites listed below, children can pick up one sack lunch for that afternoon and one sack breakfast for the following day.

Meals will be available by drive through or pickup. All children 18 and under qualify and they do not have to be students in the WESD to participate. Per the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations, children must be present to receive meals. Meals will be distributed outside at each location and, for the safety of all involved, not be consumed at the site. The WESD will provide meals at 13 sites, but the District may add locations depending on demand.

GRAB AND GO FEEDING PROGRAM

MARCH 23 - 27 10:30 A.M. TO NOON

Drive thru or walk-up only. Child(ren) must be present to receive meals.

During the statewide closure March 23-27, Washington Elementary School District will provide free breakfast and lunch in one quick stop. From 10:30 a.m. to noon at the sites listed below, children can pick up a sack lunch for that afternoon and a sack breakfast for the following day. All children up to 18 years of age are invited to participate.

Acacia Elementary	3021 W. Evans Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85053
Cholla Middle School	3120 W. Cholla Street, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Desert View Elementary	8621 N. 3rd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020
Maryland School	6503 N. 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85015
Mountain View School	801 W. Peoria, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Ocotillo Elementary	3225 W. Ocotillo, Phoenix, AZ 85017
Orangewood School	7337 N. 19th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021
Richard E. Miller Elementary	2021 W. Alice, Phoenix, AZ 85021
Roadrunner Elementary	7702 N. 39th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85051
Shaw Butte Elementary	12202 N. 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Sunnyslope School	245 E. Mountain View Road, Phoenix, AZ 85020
Sunset Elementary	4626 W. Mountain View Road, Glendale, AZ 85302
Washington Elementary	8033 N. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85051





PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTACIÓN PARA AGARRAR E IRSE

23 - 27 DE MARZO. 10:30 A.M. AL MEDIODÍA.

Solo desde el vehículo o acercarse caminando. Los niños deben estar presentes para recibir la comida.

Durante el cierre en todo el estado del 23 – 27 de marzo, el Distrito Escolar Washington proveerá desayuno y almuerzo gratuito en una parada rápida. De las 10:30 a.m. al mediodía en las escuelas mencionadas abajo, los niños pueden recoger un almuerzo en bolsa para esa tarde y un desayuno en bolsa para el día siguiente. Todos los niños hasta 18 años de edad están invitados a participar.

Escuela Acacia	3021 W. Evans Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85053
Escuela Cholla	3120 W. Cholla Street, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Escuela Desert View	8621 N. 3rd Street, Phoenix, AZ 85020
Escuela Maryland	6503 N. 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85015
Escuela Mountain View	801 W. Peoria, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Escuela Ocotillo	3225 W. Ocotillo, Phoenix, AZ 85017
Escuela Orangewood	7337 N. 19th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85021
Escuela Richard E. Miller	2021 W. Alice, Phoenix, AZ 85021
Escuela Roadrunner	7702 N. 39th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85051
Escuela Shaw Butte	12202 N. 21st Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029
Escuela Sunnyslope	245 E. Mountain View Road, Phoenix, AZ 85020
Escuela Sunset	4626 W. Mountain View Road, Glendale, AZ 85302
Escuela Washington	8033 N. 27th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85051





4650 W. Sweetwater Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304 602-347-2600 • wesdschools.org

4650 W. Sweetwater Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304 602-347-2600 • wesdschools.org

Paradise Valley Unified School District Serving Meals During District Closure

PVSchools Nutrition & Wellness Department will provide free meals to any child 18 or younger, regardless of application status or school enrollment. Per USDA regulations, children must be present at the time of pick up for meals to be provided. Each child present at the time of service will receive ONE breakfast meal for the current day and ONE lunch meal for the current day, for a grand total of TWO meals per child, daily.





Serving Meals During District Closure

PVSchools Nutrition & Wellness Department will provide free meals to any child 18 or younger, regardless of application status or school enrollment. Per USDA regulations, children must be present at the time of pick up for meals to be provided.

Each child present at the time of service will receive ONE breakfast meal for the current day and ONE lunch meal for the current day, for a grand total of TWO meals per child, daily.

Meals will be available for pick up at the following school sites via drive-thru or walk-up in the parking lot:

Cactus View Elementary 17602 N. Central Ave.

Campo Bello Elementary 2625 E. Grovers Ave.

Desert Cove Elementary 11020 N. 28th St.

Eagle Ridge Elementary 19801 N. 13th St. Echo Mountain Primary 1750 E. Grovers Ave.

Hidden Hills Elementary 1919 E. Sharon Dr.

Indian Bend Elementary 3633 E. Thunderbird Rd. 2430 E. Larkspur Dr.

Palomino Primary 15833 N. 29th St.

Sunset Canyon Elementary 2727 E. Siesta Ln.

Whispering Wind Academy 15844 N. 43rd St.

Families are encouraged to be proactive in reducing the risk of COVID-19 by not congregating at the school site once meals have been distributed and staying home if you are sick.

Meals will be served starting March 23rd, Monday - Friday 9:00 - 11:00am

Call 602-449-2274 for additional information.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





Sirviendo Comida Durante el Cierre del Distrito

El Departamento de Nutrición y Bienestar de PVSchools proporcionará comida gratis para cualquier niño de 18 años o menor, sin importar su estado de aceptación al programa o la escuela en la que estén inscritos. De acuerdo a las regulaciones del USDA, <u>los alumnos deben estar presentes al momento de recoger estos alimentos para que se les puedan proporcionar.</u>

Durante el tiempo de este servicio, cada niño que esté presente recibirá diariamente UN desayuno y UN almuerzo para ese día, lo cual equivale a DOS comidas por día.

Las comidas estarán disponibles para ser recogidas a pie o en su automóvil en el estacionamiento de siguientes escuelas:

Primaria Cactus View 17602 N. Central Ave.

Primaria Campo Bello

2625 E. Grovers Ave.

Primaria Desert Cove

Primaria Desert Cov y 11020 N. 28th St.

Primaria Eagle Ridge 19801 N. 13th St. Primaria Echo Mountain 1750 E. Grovers Ave.

Primaria Hidden Hills 1919 E. Sharon Dr.

Primaria Indian Bend 3633 E. Thunderbird Rd.

Ridge Primaria Larkspur St. 2430 E. Larkspur Dr. Primaria Palomino 15833 N. 29th St.

Primaria Sunset Canyon 2727 E. Siesta Ln.

Primaria Whispering Wind Academy 15844 N. 43rd St.

Se recomienda a las familias que sean proactivas en reducir el riesgo de contagio de COVID-19 al no congregarse en la escuela una vez que los alimentos han sido distribuidos y que permanezcan en casa si están enfermos.

Las comidas serán distribuidas de lunes a viernes de 9:00 a 11:00 a.m. a partir del lunes, 23 de marzo

Llamen al 602-449-2274 si necesitan información adicional.

Esta institución proporciona igualdad de oportunidad.

City of Phoenix Donation Drive

The Phoenix Fire Department, Phoenix Police Department, Public Works, and the Phoenix Convention Center are coordinating efforts to collect new, unopened medical/sanitation materials and personal protective equipment through a drive-up donation site at the Phoenix Convention Center (5th St. & Jefferson) between 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. this week, Monday - Friday.

Common Household Items:

- Hand Sanitizer
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Bandages/Gauze/Wound Care Items
- Gloves
- CaviWipes/Sanitation Wipes
- Tents
- Cots

Health Care Worker Personal Protective Equipment:

- N95 Masks
- Procedural/Surgical Isolation Masks
- Standard Isolation Masks
- Goggles/Eye Protection/Face Shields
- PAPR Hoods
- Isolation Gowns
- Surgical Drapes/Gowns

Health Care Supplies:

- IV Fluids
- IV Pumps
- Anesthesia Circuits
- Testing Swabs
- Custom Procedure Trays
- Anesthesia Circuits
- Ventilators
- IVR Thermometers/Baby IVR Thermometers
- Test Media



Make and Donate Face Masks or Plastic Face Shields

Community groups have reached out asking if they could make face masks to donate to health care workers. HonorHealth is able to accept these masks, and they will sanitize them. They are asking that no one goes to the hospital directly to donate since they are limiting the number of visitors to their campus. If you are able to help, let us know so we can connect you.

Please see below instructions from HonorHealth:

How to make hand sewn face masks:

https://www.phoenix.gov/district3site/Documents/Face%20Mask%20pattern.pdf

How to make plastic face shields:

https://www.phoenix.gov/district3site/Documents/Face%20Shields.pdf

CDC Encourages Donating Blood If You Are Well

Please see the media statement below from the CDC regarding blood donations:

In healthcare settings across the United States, donated blood is a lifesaving, essential part of caring for patients. The need for donated blood is constant, and blood centers are open and in urgent need of donations. CDC encourages people who are well to continue to donate blood if they are able, even if they are practicing social distancing because of COVID-19. CDC is supporting blood centers by providing recommendations that will keep donors and staff



safe. Examples of these recommendations include spacing donor chairs 6 feet apart, thoroughly adhering to environmental cleaning practices, and encouraging donors to make donation appointments ahead of time.

https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s0319-cdc-encourages-donating-blood.html

Coronavirus Impacts Blood Supply

Vitalant and American Red Cross are facing severe blood shortages and are in urgent need of donations. If you are well and able to, please consider making a donation.

Vitalant: https://www.vitalant.org

American Red Cross: https://www.redcrossblood.org/

Food Banks and Volunteering

HonorHealth Desert Mission Food Bank is in need of volunteers: Please email Aurora 'Lola' Ortiz to coordinate volunteering opportunities: aortiz@honorhealth.com.

Desert Mission Food Bank

9229 N. Fourth St. Phoenix, AZ 85020

602-870-6062

Modified Hours:

9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday – Friday



https://www.desertmission.com/programs/food-bank/

St. Mary's Food Bank is experiencing a shortage of volunteers. Please see a note from the St. Mary's Food Bank President and CEO here:

https://www.firstfoodbank.org/2020/03/a-message-from-tom-kertis-president-and-ceo-of-st-marys-food-bank/

To find a Food Bank near you:

http://www.azfoodbanks.org/index.php/foodbank/index/

2020-21 Community Budget Hearings

At the moment, April budget hearings have been postponed. More information will be provided.



The 2020 Census is Happening Now—Respond Today!

The 2020 Census has arrived. On March 12, 2020, households in Phoenix and throughout the nation, began receiving the invitation letter from the U.S. Census Bureau to participate in the 2020 Census.

U.S. Census Bureau Operations Update

While the U.S. Census form was released online on March 12, the timeline for response will last through **August 14, 2020** (per a Census Bureau update on Friday, March 20). Last week, the U.S. Census Bureau updated their operations plan impacting field operations specifically. The operations halts all field operations currently underway (impacting rural areas primarily) through April 1 and delays nonresponse follow-up (door-to-door operations) to late May. More information:

https://www.census.gov/newsroom/pressreleases/2020/operational-update.html.

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census Bureau counts how many people are living in the United States and uses that data to allocate \$675 billion in federal funds to support programs in education, healthcare, transportation, parks and recreation services, and other important local resources.

Your participation in the 2020 Census is critical! Counting everyone in your household in the 2020 Census is your opportunity to help your community receive funding for public programs and services.

Filling Out the Census Form

Participating in the census is now easier than ever with three secure and confidential ways to respond. Each household will receive a code in the mail in March 2020, directing the head of the household to complete the questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail. 2020 will be the first time in history that people can complete the form online, making it convenient for families on-the-go. To complete the survey digitally, go to the website listed on the census information you receive in the mail, answer the questions and click submit.

Additionally, you can call the toll-free number on the notification mailed to your household to respond by phone, or you can fill out your census form by hand and mail it back in the pre-paid return envelope. Each method takes under 10 minutes to complete and is completely safe and secure.



iCount-2020

Census Security

The Census questionnaire asks you to share demographic information, but your answers are strictly kept private and anonymous, even to other government agencies. <u>Title 13 of the U.S. Code</u> prohibits the Census Bureau from releasing any identifiable information about you or anyone else in your household. This law extends to protect your information from being shared with any person, organization, court, business or government agency, including law enforcement.

Anyone employed by the Census Bureau is sworn under oath to protect any identifiable information. Violating this law is a federal crime which could result in a \$250,000 fine and/or up-to 5 years in jail. These strict penalties are put in place to ensure that census data is only used to generate the statistics that guide the distribution of \$675 billion in federal funding and allocation of congressional representation.

The Census Bureau also houses a group of cybersecurity experts who monitor and secure the bureau's technology 24/7. They work alongside federal intelligence agencies to provide continuous protection from census scammers and incoming cyber threats.



Why You Count

You count for your community! In Arizona, census data helps with the distribution of

federal funding across 55 programs, including the National Lunch Program, federal student loan programs, and many other programs that enhance quality of life. For each person counted, the state receives \$2,959 in federal funding totaling more than \$20 billion per year, which goes toward vital services including schools, emergency services, and hospitals.

The United States has counted its population each decade since 1790. Every 10 years you have a chance to participate and make sure you are counted, both for you and your community. Now is the time—the 2020 Census is here!

As members of iCount2020, the regional census outreach campaign to educate the public and ensure an accurate count of Arizona in the 2020 Census, we have made education about the census a priority. People can email or call our census coordinator, Leila Gamiz at leila.gamiz@phoenix.gov or 602-262-4078 to learn more about how every man, woman and child has a direct impact on local programs. The upcoming 2020 Census is a monumental event that only occurs every ten years. It is important that we get it right to ensure Phoenix receives its fair share of funding.

Visit iCount2020.info to learn more about local census efforts.