



News Release

For immediate release: March 18, 2020

For more information contact:

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Lewis County Public Services implements COVID-19 safety measures

Chehalis, WA – Medical experts have indicated the coronavirus spreads from person to person and if everyone practices social distancing, reducing the amount of close contact from person to person, we can reduce the risk of spreading the virus. Therefore, the Lewis County Public Services Directors have made the decision to implement some temporary measures for the safety of the Lewis County community and their staff members.

Effective at noon, March 18, 2020, the Public Services building (housing Environmental Health, Community Development, and Public Works) located at 2025 NE Kresky Ave. Chehalis, will be closed to the public. We are attempting to keep all operations and services continuing during this time, and the Directors will revisit these measures on Friday, April 3 to determine whether to reopen the building to the public or to extend the temporary closure.

Community Development - Permit Center

Staff are developing procedures to assist the public through means other than face-to-face contact. Staff will make every effort to continue permit processing (building, planning, septic and water). Please expect some minor delays as we (employees and the public) are all conducting business from a different platform. Please call the Permit Center at 360-740-1146 with inquiries related to electronic submittals, payments or to schedule, in advance, a direct drop off or pick up that may be possible if conducted under public health guidelines.

We also intend to make every attempt to continue on-site inspections for building, septic and water, provided this work can be accomplished under public health guidelines.

Vader Water

All payments must be made by mail or over the phone by credit card.
Vader Water: 360-740-1371.

Environmental Health-Code Enforcement

New complaints received will be prioritized by public health risk. Existing cases with low priority may be temporarily suspended and will be re-addressed once the COVID-19 issues have passed.

Public Works

All payments and inquiries must be made by mail or over the phone. Public Works can be reached at 360-740-1123.

Please stay informed by checking the following websites for updates:

Lewis County COVID-19 Web Page

<https://lewiscountywa.gov/covid19/>

Washington State Department of Health (DOH)

www.doh.wa.gov/coronavirus

Thank you for your patience as we work to provide services and protect the health and welfare of our staff and citizens during this event.

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