



## News Release of March 23, 2020

### CONTACT

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### A Message From Alpena City Manager

The City of Alpena is taking necessary precautions to minimize the impact of the Coronavirus-19 pandemic on our community. We ask citizens to join us in taking the right steps to prevent or mitigate the risk in your homes and businesses. The people most at risk are our elderly, very young and those already battling other illnesses.

"Our City team has been planning ahead of the Governor's current order and the possibility of substantial employee illness. I believe we are prepared to take the best possible steps to maintain essential services while protecting our employees and the general public." said Mayor Waligora

For at least the next three weeks, all Michigan businesses and operations must temporarily suspend in-person operations that are not necessary to sustain or protect life, and all Michiganders must stay in their homes unless they're a part of that critical infrastructure workforce, engaged in an outdoor activity, or performing tasks necessary to the health and safety of themselves or their family, like going to the hospital or grocery store.

#### **YOU CAN:**

- Go to the grocery store or pick up take-out food.
- Go to the pharmacy to pick up a needed prescription.
- Engage in outdoor activities like walking, hiking, running, biking.
- Go to the hospital or secure any care necessary to address a medical emergency or to preserve your health or the health of a loved one.
- Fill your car with gas.
- Return to Michigan to a home or place of residence from outside the State.
- Leave the State for a home or residence elsewhere.
- Walk your pets and take them to the veterinarian for needed medical care.

#### **YOU MAY NOT:**

- Leave the home to work unless your employer designates you as a critical infrastructure worker.
- Participate in any public gatherings.
- Visit someone in the hospital, nursing home, or other residential care facilities (with limited exceptions).
- Go to the mall or to restaurants.

With the announcement today of Executive Order 20-21, the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” order temporarily suspending activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life; the City of Alpena will only provide essential services to the public through April 13<sup>th</sup>. Essential services include:

Fire and Emergency Medical Services - A full staff will remain in place. Please call 911 as needed.

You may reach the Fire Chief at 354-1840.

Police - The lobby will remain open with limited access. Please call 911 as needed. The police department will monitor businesses to make sure they are following Governor Whitmer’s executive orders and will take the appropriate enforcement action.

You may reach the Police Chief at 354-1800.

The Department of Public Works will continue to provide the following services:

- Snow plowing, as warranted

- Street repair and maintenance

- Water and sewer service line repairs and/or replacements – failed services

- Water main repairs

- Sewer main repairs

- Emergency park and shoreline repairs

- Traffic hazard abatement

- Storm damage, trees down, flooding, etc.

You may reach the DPW Director at 354-1781.

The Clerk is accepting all payments via mail or drop box as City Hall will be closed to the public. Payments may be mailed to 208 North First Avenue, Alpena MI 49707 or placed in the drop box located in the parking lot behind City Hall. We will not be issuing any boat launch permits at this time; however, boat launch permits may be purchased as a daily permit at the launch site. If you purchase any daily permits during the closure, please bring your receipt to City Hall and you will receive a reduction in the cost of your annual permit.

You may reach the Clerk at 354-1720.

Water/Sewer - The water and sewer utility will only be performing emergency service calls to homes and businesses within our service area. To protect both our workers and property owners, only calls related to sewer backups, or water supply issues will warrant an in-home response from SUEZ employees, our utility contractor. The utility office will be open for services via the drive-up window only or payments may be placed in the drop box located in the parking lot behind City Hall, online, or may be mailed to their office at 210 Harbor Drive, Alpena, MI 49707.

You may reach the City Engineer at 354-1731.

The City Building department has suspended all residential rental inspections. Health and safety issues involving residential rental properties may still be phoned in and will be addressed. Building, zoning, home occupation and sign permits will continue to be issued as will any inspections that are needed. Forms may be downloaded from the City website at [www.alpena.mi.us](http://www.alpena.mi.us). completed and mailed with payment to City Hall.

You may reach the Building Official at 354-1761.

If you need to know if you are required to work or you are able to work based on the Governor's directive, please contact Emergency Services Coordinator Mark Hall at [hallm@alpenacounty.org](mailto:hallm@alpenacounty.org).

Please stay informed by checking **official** sources like the Centers for Disease Control, Michigan Dept. of Health and Human Services and [www.Michigan.gov](http://www.Michigan.gov).

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.