

## Borough of Tinton Falls OEM Public Health Update (3/30/2020)

The Tinton Falls Office of Emergency Management (TFOEM), in partnership with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission (MCRHC), continues to monitor the COVID-19 outbreak. TFOEM has daily interaction with the Monmouth County Office of Emergency Management and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. TFOEM will lead the response to, and the recovery of, this public health emergency for the Borough of Tinton Falls. TFOEM has been in communication with all Tinton Falls Emergency Services including Emergency Medical Services, Police Department and Fire Service, as well as; the Department of Public Works, School Administrators, faith-based communities and healthcare facilities within the Borough.

- The Monmouth County Regional Health Commission No. 1 (MCRHC) continues to report the number of positive cases of COVID-19. There are twenty-four (24) reported cases of people who have tested positive for COVID-19, within the Borough of Tinton Falls. The Borough has no further information to share due to privacy rights of our fellow residents. Our residents who have been reported to have tested positive are either self-isolated, self-quarantined or hospitalized. The MCRHC Communicable Disease Team continues to conduct intensive monitoring and ongoing public health investigation of every positive case. This investigation includes tracing of actions taken by the infected for days prior to first signs of symptoms. The MCRHC investigators Visit [www.mcrhc.org](http://www.mcrhc.org) for additional information on COVID-19
- The next Borough Council meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, April 7th, via a Webex meeting, which is an online meeting that allows you to virtually meet with other people, without leaving your home or office, and which allows for public participation. Per NJ State of Emergency declarations, all governing body meetings must be limited to essential business. The agenda will be posted, as it normally is, to our Borough website, in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please visit [www.tintonfalls.com](http://www.tintonfalls.com) for information on upcoming meetings.
- Borough of Tinton Falls Municipal Offices will be closed to the public until further notice. This measure is being taken to minimize COVID-19 exposure for employees, residents and those that conduct business with the Borough and to ensure continuity of municipal services. All municipal employees will continue to report to work in various ways and will serve the public by telephone, e-mail, regular mail or fax. Please visit the Borough's website at [www.tintonfalls.com](http://www.tintonfalls.com) for forms, payments, and department contact information. All payments and forms can also be dropped off in the designated drop box outside the front entrance to the municipal building.
- All Tinton Falls Municipal Parks are closed effective Friday March 20, 2020. All municipal park playgrounds, athletic fields, basketball courts and similar athletic courts will be closed for all use. Passive areas such as the walking trails at Sycamore Recreation Complex and Liberty Park will remain open.
- As per the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission: While schools are closed, students should not be meeting in public places. The decision to close is in response to the spread of COVID-19 within the community and to help reduce the impact to the health care system. During this time when students are home, please practice social distancing. It is highly recommend not to congregate outside of school and everyone should follow the CDC guidelines(<https://www.cdc.gov/.../comm.../schools-childcare/checklist.html>), including hand washing techniques. Closing schools will only have the desired impact if everyone follows through on actions to slow the spread of COVID-19.
- All residents and businesses will need to comply with Governor Murphy's aggressive social distancing measures announced in Executive Orders.
- Governor Murphy announced the creation of an all-encompassing website for COVID-19 information: <https://covid19.nj.gov/>
- To mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and protect the capacity of New Jersey's health care system for the state's most vulnerable, Governor Phil Murphy signed Executive Order

No. 107 on March 21, 2020, directing all residents to stay at home until further notice.

The order provides for certain exceptions, such as:

- obtaining essential goods or services
  - seeking medical attention
  - visiting family or close friends
  - reporting to work
  - engaging in outdoor activities.
- It is important to have factual up to date information. The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness and New Jersey Office of Emergency Management have launched a COVID-19 Rumor Control and Disinformation website. Rumors can easily circulate within communities during a crisis; therefore, it is important to get accurate information from a credible source. To help the distinguish between facts and rumors or disinformation regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) please go to: [www.njhomelandsecurity.gov/covid19](http://www.njhomelandsecurity.gov/covid19)
  - Donations of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) are needed. The needs include nitrile examination gloves, surgical or N95 masks, protective gowns, protective face shields, multi-function no-contact infrared thermometers, hand sanitizer and anti-bacterial wipes. Donations of these items are being accepted at Thompson Park, 805 Newman Springs Road, in Lincroft, beginning Wednesday, March 25, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday.
  - As per the Small Business Association: SBA regional and district offices are hosting information webinars on #COVID19 disaster assistance for small businesses. Find regional and district offices near you: <https://sba.gov/local>
  - NJ 211 has been activated to help handle COVID-19 related calls from New Jersey residents. All residents with questions or concerns about COVID-19 and resources available to them can call 2-1-1. NJ 211 is New Jersey's statewide, comprehensive, information and referral service operated by United Ways of New Jersey. Text NJCOVID to 898-211 for text information and to stay informed.
  - Department of Health has a COVID-19 website with resources including CDC updates, guidance for schools, colleges, businesses, long-term care facilities, health care professionals and public health professionals. The website is available at <https://nj.gov/health/coronavirus>.
  - Healthy Hygiene Recommendations from the CDC and NJDOH:
    - First and foremost, wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
    - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
    - Avoid close contact with people who are sick and keep a distance between yourself and other people, especially if COVID-19 is spreading in your community.
    - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
    - Stay home when you are sick.
    - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
    - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.