COVID-19 UPDATE

As statewide restrictions lifted late in May, Scottsdale started reopening facilities and programs to the public. City pools, playgrounds, basketball, tennis, pickleball and volleyball courts opened in phases.

At many facilities, changes to hours of operation and physical adjustments are in place to adhere to public health guidelines and best practices aimed at continuing to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Given the continuing rise in COVID-19 cases throughout Maricopa County, Scottsdale Mayor W.J. “Jim” Lane issued an emergency proclamation June 18 that required people to cover their nose and mouth in most public areas in Scottsdale. The order will expire July 20 unless further extended.

Whether or not face coverings are legally required, the city reminds each resident that a healthy Scottsdale starts with you. Stay home if you are sick or have any symptoms of illness, practice good hand hygiene, stay at least 6 feet from others and clean and sanitize items and surfaces you touch frequently.

The situation changes regularly; some information contained in this newsletter may become outdated quickly. Find the latest city updates and links to resources and other information at ScottsdaleAZ.gov.

You can also get city news delivered via email—simply text your email address to 480-312-3111, or visit our website and search “Scottsdale Update.”

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Earlier this year, an empty oxygen tank was put in with someone's recycling and, once compressed by the truck, the tank exploded causing a fire. Luckily, the driver heard the explosion, quickly acted, and was able to dump the entire load before anyone was hurt or severe damage was done.

The Scottsdale Fire Department responded and put out the fire and Solid Waste crews cleaned up the street.

Please keep in mind - seemingly harmless items like cell phone batteries, pool chemicals and even fertilizers are extremely dangerous to everyone's safety when placed in recycling or trash containers.

The city offers different ways for you to properly dispose hazardous materials. Learn about them at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “hazardous waste.”

Monsoons and wildfires - are you prepared? Monsoon season continues through the end of September, and wildfires remain a particular threat this year. Monsoon season brings higher humidity, which can lead to thunderstorms, heavy rain, lightning, hail, high winds, flash flooding, dust storms and extreme heat. As we have seen already this year, fires can start and spread very quickly in the dry brush found throughout many parts of Scottsdale. Prepare now so you know what actions you should take when a major storm rolls in, or a wildfire is growing near you. Develop a household emergency plan, and consider items you would need to take, and routes you may need to travel in the event of an emergency evacuation. Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “emergency.”

As of late June, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that about two-thirds (61.2 percent) of the households in Scottsdale had completed the census.

An accurate census count will help Scottsdale receive its fair share of federal and regional funding. The city also uses census data to plan services and projects, and to place facilities like fire stations, parks and community centers where they will be most effective - an accurate count is vital to your community.

What should I know about completing the census?

You have three choices to complete the census questionnaire. Respond in the method you’re most comfortable with -- online, by phone or on paper.

The census will not come in the form of an unsolicited email and it won’t ask for money.

When do I have to respond?

Right away. The Census Bureau is beginning follow-ups with households who haven’t responded. All census responses need to be received no later than Oct. 31.

Is it safe to complete my questionnaire online?

The 2020 Census website is safe and secure. Regardless of how you respond, the Census Bureau is bound by federal law to protect your information.

How long will it take to complete the form?

Filling out the census form should only take a few minutes - the long forms are long gone. There are fewer than 10 questions covering things like age, gender, race and household living arrangements.

What about part-time residents?

If you don’t live in Scottsdale year-round, you should report your U.S. residency wherever you live and sleep most of the time – even if you are a citizen of a foreign country. If you aren’t sure, report your residency where you were on April 1.

Learn more at ScottsdaleAZ.gov, search “census.”

We’re counting on you, Scottsdale!