

PRESS RELEASE

Date: March 23, 2020
TO: All Media
FROM: Jeff Hecksel, County Administrator

HOOD RIVER COUNTY CLOSES BUILDINGS TO THE PUBLIC

Today the Governor issued Executive Order No. 20-12

Included in the Order was the following:

“Pursuant to ORS 433.441(3)(a), (b), (d) and (f), ORS 401.168(1), and ORS 401.188(1) to (3), and effective March 25, 2020, all state executive branch offices and buildings, to the maximum extent possible, shall close to the public and provide public services by phone and online during regular business hours. To the extent that closure is not feasible, in-person interactions between staff and the public should be by appointment, whenever possible. When public services require in-person interactions, social distancing measures must be established, implemented, and enforced.”

While this order did not directly apply to local governments, local governments were strongly encouraged to adhere to the polices underlying these directives.

Given this Order, Hood River County will be closing its doors to the public, effective March 24, 2020 12:01am.

County departments will continue to do business but by appointment only and by phone or email to the extent possible. Social Distancing measures will be strictly adhered to. For the past two weeks most, county departments have been operating in this manner, short of having the doors locked. This directive will extend until such time as conditions exist to allow the County to reopen its facilities to the public. As the response to this pandemic evolves, the County will need to continue to adjust, and there will likely be further changes.

Please visit the Hood River County website <https://www.co.hood-river.or.us> for county department contact information.

For more information about COVID-19, including clinical Guidance please visit:

Oregon Health Authority: For Healthcare Providers and Clinical laboratories:

<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OH/DISEASES/CONDITIONS/DISEASESAZ/Pages/emerging-respiratory-infections.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Hood River County Health Department: (541) 386-1115 or [https://www.co.hood-](https://www.co.hood-river.or.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7bAF40862A-8B0E-4107-B2B4-956029C71941%7d)

[river.or.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7bAF40862A-8B0E-4107-B2B4-956029C71941%7d](https://www.co.hood-river.or.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC=%7bAF40862A-8B0E-4107-B2B4-956029C71941%7d)

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