



NEWS RELEASE

York County Public Affairs

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York County Update 5/8/2020:

**Tax Bills Mailed; Businesses Urged to Flush Water Pipes;
Enhanced Customer Service Request Portal Launching;
Election Information; Tourism Update**

May 8, 2020

Bills for Taxes Mailed; Due Date is June 25

- The Treasurer has mailed tax bills for the first half of 2020 and several citizens have already paid them online at www.yorkcounty.gov/treasurer. To encourage taxpayers to pay online, the Board of Supervisors waived credit card convenience fees at its April 21 meeting. Also available online are “how to” guides for creating a pin/password and bill pay. To assist taxpayers during this difficult time, reduced penalties and interest on late tax and utility billing payments until September 30 were also approved by the Board. If you have any questions, please email the Treasurer’s office at treas@yorkcounty.gov.

Board of Supervisors Meeting

- The Board of Supervisors May 5 meeting was held remotely. This meeting was a work session. The Board approved the proposed FY2021 budget, Calendar Year 2020 tax rates, FY2021-FY2026 Capital Improvement Program, Designation of Real Property Tax for School Purposes, and County Code Amendment re: Ambulance Transport Fees. Meeting details are available [here](#). The recorded meeting is available to view at www.yorkcounty.gov/tv. The next meeting is May 19 and this will also be held remotely with phone lines available to record citizen comments.

Businesses Closed Due to COVID-19 are Urged to Flush Water Pipes

- Directors of Hampton Roads’ water utilities and health department officials advise business owners and operators who closed or evacuated buildings due to COVID-19 to thoroughly flush their establishment’s plumbing systems before reopening. These practices are recommended for schools, daycares, lodging, offices, places of worship, event venues, retail, libraries, museums, restaurants, gyms, healthcare and other facilities which have remained closed during the COVID-19 shutdown.

When water is not used, the disinfectant in the water dissipates over time. Without chlorinated water flowing through the pipes for an extended period, microorganisms can grow in water pipes, fixtures and tanks. Prolonged water stagnation also can diminish the normal, protective scale on interior pipe walls. Without the protective scale, metal from the piping may dissolve into the water. During the flushing process, stagnant, existing water is replaced with fresh water, which has been continually treated and monitored by the region's water utilities throughout the COVID pandemic. Instructions are available at www.yorkcounty.gov/pw and www.hrpdc.gov/buildingflushing.

County Launching Customer Service Request Portal

- Beginning Monday, May 11, York County's enhanced Customer Service Request Portal will be active and able to accept inspection requests from builders/contractors and provide a more user-friendly online system for citizens to request assistance and to track the status of those requests. For more information, read the press release [here](#).

Election Information

- **There is no May election in York County.**
- **The deadline to register to vote in the June 23 primary—or to update your address or other registration information—is Tuesday, May 26. Absentee voting for the election began on May 8.** Absentee voting is available for those who are concerned about going to their polling place because of COVID-19, will be out of their precinct on June 23, are unable to go to their polling place because of an illness or disability, and those who otherwise qualify to vote an absentee ballot. The deadline to **apply to vote absentee online or by mail or email is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16.** The deadline to **apply to vote absentee in person is 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 20.** In order to accommodate those who wish to vote absentee in person, the Registrar's Office will be open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, June 20, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information about absentee voting, including whether a witness is required, visit www.yorkcounty.gov/voting.

July 4th Decisions Made in Light of Impacts from COVID-19

- The health crisis, along with the severity of the financial impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, have forced the County to continue making operational reductions now and into the next fiscal year. This includes the difficult decision to cancel the July 4th fireworks and parade. While public restrictions on large gatherings may very well be relaxed before July 4, financial commitments needed for these events must be made far in advance. The savings to the County budget is very important and necessary at this time.

Public Works

- In a joint effort between the Department of Public Work and the Division of Tourism Development, **three hand sanitizing stations** have been placed in the Riverwalk Landing area. These stations offer four hand sanitizer dispensers in

each and are located in the Riverwalk Landing area, near the Freight Shed, restaurants and between the parking garage restrooms.

- **Reminder:** The **Household Chemical Collection and Computer Recycling** event is Saturday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Operations Drive (just off Goodwin Neck Road). Additional details are available in the [press release](#) and at www.yorkcounty.gov/wastemanagement.

Tourism Development

- The second **Yorktown Market Days Drive-thru** market was another huge success. In celebration of *Virginia Farmers Market Week*, social media features on the individual farms and businesses were promoted daily on Visit Yorktown's Facebook page, which was to make personal connections even without walk-up shopping/chatting. Two samples: <https://bit.ly/35CAg4i> and <https://bit.ly/2WbyX97>. One of the farms came close to *tripling* its orders week over week and had **127 bags and boxes of fresh produce** ready to load up in people's cars! Overall, there were 125 more orders and 20 additional cars that pulled through McReynolds Athletic Complex from 8 to 11 a.m.
- With **Riverwalk Landing restaurants** beginning to open up for takeout/pickup orders, York County Department of Community Services began providing **short term parking for restaurant customers** on the lower level of the parking terrace. Customers who have placed orders may park while they wait for their order to be filled. Parking attendants are onsite to monitor the lower level parking terrace as well as to answer any questions visitors may have. This takeout/pickup parking is available daily from 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. As a reminder, the upper level of the parking terrace remains closed.