Please note that information highlighted in yellow reflects new and updated information.

Updated: March 20, 2020

(Clifton) - The Clifton Health Department, in consultation with the City Manager, Mayor and Council, understands that residents are concerned about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The City of Clifton has had an additional 3 cases since yesterday, bringing the total case count to 17. Please see attachment for additional information on cases. Please be assured that the Health Department has been working diligently with the City administration to reduce the spread of COVID-19. We have been in constant communication with our Police Department, Fire Department, Office of Emergency Management, Department of Public Works, Clifton Board of Education, Boys and Girls Club, long-term care facilities, and other community partners, in collaboration with New Jersey Department of Health and Passaic County Department of Health Services.

We would like to remind you of basic preventative actions that should be followed during this pandemic. As per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, please be sure that you:

- Practice handwashing regularly for at least 20 seconds
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Stay home when you are sick, and avoid close contact with people who are sick

In addition, be sure to practice the following social distancing measures:
- Keep a distance of at least 6 feet with other people
- Avoid unnecessary physical contact, such as handshaking
- Avoid attending crowded events and social gatherings. Consider replacing in-person gatherings with video chatting, voice messaging and phone calls
Please note that COVID-19 testing is only available for symptomatic individuals. Main symptoms include a fever of more than 100.4, coughing, and shortness of breath. Additionally, sore throat, nausea, and diarrhea may occur. The Health Department does not test for COVID-19. Testing can be done through medical providers; contact your healthcare provider to see if you are eligible for testing. Drive-through testing sites are becoming available. One testing site is Bergen Community College, located at 400 Paramus Rd., Paramus, NJ, 07652. PNC Arts Center, located at 116 Garden State Parkway, Holmdel, NJ, 07733 is scheduled to open as a testing site on Monday, 3/23/2020. A Passaic County drive-through testing site will be set-up in coming days. Information on this can be found at passaiccountynj.org.

The Health Department will not be distributing masks, sanitizers, and other supplies to the public.

Out of an abundance of caution, the following locations in the City of Clifton will be closed to the public until further notice:
- Clifton City Hall
- Clifton Public Schools
- Fire Headquarters
- Clifton DPW Garage
- Clifton Senior Center
- Clifton Arts Center
- Boys and Girls Club of Clifton
- Clifton Recreation Center
- City Parks and Playgrounds
- Clifton Public Libraries
- Clifton Hamilton House Museum

In addition, effective immediately, the Clifton Animal Shelter will be closed to the general public but appointments are available to come in. Please visit www.cliftonanimalshelter.com for more information or call 973-470-5936 with any questions.

Residents will be able to continue to conduct business with the City during the closure through use of the City’s website. In addition, staff in each department will be available during regular business hours by telephone to assist residents and answer questions.

The Clifton Health Department is a contractual health agency serving the Township of Little Falls.
Clifton Municipal Court sessions have been suspended from Monday, March 16, 2020 continuing through Friday, March 27, 2020.

Seniors who are in need of a meal should call Margaret Nysk at 973-470-2249. Attached, you will also find a list of restaurants that are open within the City of Clifton. This list is preliminary and we will add to it when have compiled more information.

Additionally, as per Executive Order 104, which was enacted by Governor Murphy on March 16, 2020, the following will be in effect immediately:

- All public, private, and parochial preschool program premises, and elementary and secondary schools, including charter and renaissance schools, shall be closed to students as of Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and shall remain closed as long as this Order remains in effect.
- All institutions of higher education shall cease in-person instruction as of Wednesday, March 18, 2020 and shall cease such in-person instruction as long as this Order remains in effect.
- As of March 16, 2020, bars and restaurants may be open for takeout and delivery services ONLY, during normal business hours, until further notice.
- Gyms, fitness centers, entertainment centers including, but not limited to movie theaters, performing art centers, other concert venues, and night clubs are closed until further notice.
- All licensed establishments are limited to the sale of packaged goods in original containers for consumption off premise.
- Other non-essential retail, recreational, and entertainment businesses must cease daily operations from 8:00pm until 5:00am. From 5:00am to 8:00pm, these businesses may remain open if they limit their occupancy to no more than 50 persons, which include employees, and adhere to social distancing guidelines.
- Essential businesses are excluded from this directive, examples include: grocery/food stores, pharmacies, medical supply stores, gas stations, health care facilities, and ancillary stores within health care facilities.

In addition: as of 3/16/2020, all non-essential and non-emergency travel in New Jersey is strongly discouraged between the hours of 8:00 pm and 5:00 am; this will remain in effect for the foreseeable future.
Furthermore, as of 3/19/2020, Governor Murphy has declared the closure of all personal-care businesses and social clubs which cannot comply with social distancing guidelines, until further notice, including:

- Barber shops
- Hair salons
- Spas
- Nail and eyelash salons
- Tattoo parlors

On 3/20/2020, New Jersey Department of Health, will be halting medical adult daycare health centers.

For general questions pertaining to COVID-19, please call the New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Hotline at 211 or text NJCOVID to 898-211. For mental health-related concerns during COVID-19, please call the Disaster Distress Hotline at 1-800-985-5990 or text “talk with us” at 66746. If you wish to get in touch with the Clifton Health Department for general COVID-19 questions, please email Health Educator Layal Helwani at Lhelwani@cliftonnj.org.