March 18, 2020

**Goodhue County Facilities to Modify Service Delivery; Makes State of Emergency Declaration**

*Essential and Emergency services still provided; residents encouraged to use website, and electronic services*

The health and safety of Goodhue County residents and employees continues to be the top priority for Goodhue County. As the COVID-19 situation unfolds, Goodhue County remains open but with modifications to protect the public and our employees.

Effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 4:30pm., Goodhue County will be modifying how it delivers services to the public and will not be allowing public entry to county buildings through at least April 3, 2020.

Goodhue County remains open to serving the public and will do so through telephone, fax, email, and online services available through our website: [www.co.goodhue.mn.us](http://www.co.goodhue.mn.us)

Facilities closed to the public include:

- Goodhue County Government Center, Health & Human Services Building, Law Enforcement Center, Public Works Buildings, Recycling Center, and Goodhue County portions of the Justice Center.
- This suspension *does NOT* include Goodhue County District Court areas of the Justice Center. Please visit [http://www.mncourts.gov/](http://www.mncourts.gov/) for more information.
- Goodhue County will have drop boxes for critical documents at the Health & Human Services Building, Law Enforcement Center, Public Works and the Government Center.

During this time, passports will not be processed until we reopen. Front desk and walk-up services are suspended and county employees will work with clients to reschedule in-person appointments. County employees will continue to work, combining teleworking with staggered work schedules to continue responding and serving residents via phone or email.
Parks, trails and self-service recycling boxes will remain open.

Goodhue County Board Chair Paul Drotos acknowledges, “This will make everyday life even more challenging but during unprecedented times, we must do all we can to help do our part in slowing the spread of COVID-19 especially for the most vulnerable populations within Goodhue County.”

County employees continue to work daily to develop and implement the local response plan for COVID-19. We will continue to work hard to promote mitigation strategies, deliver essential and emergency services, and deploy resources where they are needed most. Counties provide critical services to residents, and we will continue to do so in different ways. We are asking for your patience and understanding.

Minnesota Department of Health has set up a COVID-19 public hotline that is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The hotline number is 651-201-3920 or 1-800-657-3903. The Department of Public Safety and Minnesota Department of Education have also opened a hotline focusing on community based strategies and schools. This hotline is also open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. This hotline number is 1-800-657-3504. Residents are encouraged to go to the Goodhue County Health and Human Services Facebook page www.facebook.com/gchhs and the Goodhue County Website www.co.goodhue.mn.us for local information. Residents can also find more information on COVID-19 at www.health.state.mn.us.


The County Board will acknowledge the State of Emergency Declaration at their next County Board meeting.

For more information on Goodhue County, please visit www.co.goodhue.mn.us

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health and Human Services</td>
<td>651-385-3200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law Enforcement Center</td>
<td>651-267-2600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>651-385-3025</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government Center</td>
<td>651-385-3000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice Center</td>
<td>651-267-4800</td>
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