



MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: (707) 463-4441

TO: MENDOCINO COUNTY NEWS MEDIA

FR: MENDOCINO COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Ukiah, California: March 19, 2020

Mendocino County Department Closures

As of today, the Mendocino County Elected Officials and Department Heads are authorized to close their departments to the public, as the most appropriate means of protecting the health of their employees while still providing essential public services.

Commenting on the closures, Board of Supervisors Chair John Haschak stated, "Essential services will still be open and serving the needs of our community. Non-essential services will be closed for the safety and wellbeing of County residents and employees. These are the right actions to take in these extraordinary times to keep us as safe and healthy as possible."

Health and Human Services Director Tammy Moss-Chandler stated, "The Health and Human Services Agency provides vital services that protect the County's most vulnerable residents. While our lobby and reception areas are closing to protect both our employees and the people we serve, we will continue to provide the emergency and critical services that protect and support our children, families and elders."

Asked about property tax, The Treasurer Tax - Collector Shari Schapmire stated, "County Tax Collectors cannot change the April 10 deadline for the second Installment of secured property taxes because the delinquency date of Friday, April 10, 2020, is established by State law. All taxes, assessments, fines, or fees should be mailed to our office through the US Postal Service, electronically remitted on-line or over the phone, or placed in the drop box in front of the County Administration Building. Cash must be converted to money orders or cashiers checks."

The Assessor - Clerk - Recorder Katrina Bartolomie, announced "At this time, the Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder-Elections Office will be open by appointment with limited essential functions available to Mendocino County residents. Please call before coming in - Clerk Recorder/Elections 707 234-6822 or Assessor Appraiser's 707 234-6800 and Business Property 707-234-6815. The Elections employees are busy doing mandated tasks to complete the canvass to certify the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary Election. We are currently reviewing each Provisional and Conditional ballot that was completed on Election Day at the Polling Places. Once this is complete we will sort and count those ballots and begin counting the unused ballots to balance. The ballots that had mismatched or missing signatures, letters were sent out to each voter, those signatures are due in our office by 5 pm Friday, March 27, 2020. Once these are received and processed we will be able to complete our tasks to certify the election."

Below are the office closures as of Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.:

Department	Services/Closures
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public counter will be closed. Customers should call for assistance. Essential permits will still be issued.
Air Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public counter will be closed.
Animal Care Services - Ukiah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public, with staff working in the office. No volunteers allowed at this time.
Animal Care Services – Fort Bragg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public, with staff working in the office. No volunteers allowed at this time.
Assessor/Clerk-Recorder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public counter open, however only providing essential services at this time: recordings; certifying elections; issuance of marriage licenses to County residences only (no ceremonies).
Auditor-Controller	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counter closed to public and departments.
Child Support Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public.
County Counsel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public.
Cultural Services Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All library branches and services are closed. Staff is available to answer patron questions over the phone at branches and assist with online resources, from 10am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. Museum is closed.
District Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently open for all services.
Executive Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public.
Health & Human Services Agency (HHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All HHS reception areas will be closed to the general public.
Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to public. Staff working in the office.
Retirement Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office is closed.
Planning & Building Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public counter is closed except for appointments arranged by telephone or e-mail for essential services. Public can call, e-mail or mail applications and documents for processing.
Probation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Front doors will be open to the public. Only essential or legally mandated appointments will be allowed into the Department. Non-essential appointments will be handled by telephone as much as possible.
Public Defender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently open for all services.

Department	Services/Closures
Sheriff-Coroner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main office in Ukiah is closed to public. Staff are working in the office. Customers can use the night lobby phone to reach staff, who will determine if services can be provided. • Fort Bragg office is closed to the public.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to the public except by appointment arranged by phone or email.
Treasurer/Tax Collector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently open for all services.
UC Cooperative Extension	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed

For more information, please contact the Mendocino County Executive Office at (707) 463 4441 or ceo@mendocinocounty.org.