



TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 13, 2020

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT
TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE

COVID-19

The Mayor and Council of the Town of Chincoteague are closely monitoring the coronavirus situation as it may relate to the Town residents and visitors. The Emergency Management Team is having multiple daily contact with the Virginia Department of Health, the Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the Accomack County of Public Safety and the Department of Rail and Transportation as it relates to our trolley service.

Governor Northam has declared a state of emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia to enact various disaster laws that will help with the flow of commodities, personnel and to circumvent some policies and procedures to ensure a rapid response to all Virginian's.

As of 10 AM, Friday, March 13, 2020, there are no reported, presumptive, or confirmed cases of Covid-19 on Chincoteague Island and no local declaration of emergency by Mayor and Council has been enacted. We will be following the Governor's declaration until which time it becomes prudent to declare a state of emergency locally within the Town.

Town staff are reviewing and implementing any and all continuity of government plans to ensure basic services will continue regardless of the impact to the residents, visitors and/or staff members.

Information and planning are being communicated with the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce to keep businesses and patrons of these businesses safe and prevent the spread of any and all infectious diseases.

You may have seen changes to some short-term events and even postponement or cancellation of others. This is a very fluid situation and communications with planners will continue until such a time that the situation has stabilized or resolved itself.

Until such time, you are the first line of defense in preventing the spread of cold, flu or the coronavirus. Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water and practice

social distancing by staying away from large crowds and minimizing person to person contact. If your sick, stay home. Help your neighbors with groceries and supplies should they become ill. If you have elderly family members, talk with their doctors to be sure they have or will be able to access their medications should they become ill or need to *remain indoors for a period of time*. Contact your family doctor should you become ill and only go to the emergency department if directed to do so by your doctor or you are having an actual emergency.

Together our community will remain prepared and resilient to meet this and any challenge that lies ahead. Please see www.chincoteague-va.gov or follow us on Facebook for updated information or direction as it becomes available.