

Regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic:
Monday March 16, 2020

The Village of Crete is monitoring the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and implementing any recommendations made by the Illinois Department of Public Health that we feel are appropriate and necessary to protect our community. We are also complying with the various Executive Orders of the Governor that includes closing all restaurants, bars, and gambling until at least March 30th. This is to promote social distancing goals.

Today, as Village President, I personally went to every restaurant and bar in Crete that was open to insure that they understood the Orders and answered any questions they had. Surprisingly, most had already been informed and were in the process of modifying their operations to meet the requirements, and all understood the predicament that we are in. If you can patronize them by ordering carryout, that would greatly help these businesses.

I held a staff meeting Monday morning to get everyone on the same page and I am confident that was accomplished. We will be monitoring every employee's temperature and general physical condition at least once per day. With these exceptions, for now it is business as usual, however, public access will be prohibited to both fire stations, so as to not unnecessarily expose the duty crew to outside sources. Ambulance crews will also evaluate every patient for signs of the virus. Distancing will also be a priority for all employees, relating to contact with each other and members of the public. At the present time Village Hall hours and operations remain unaffected until further notice.

We are cleaning all areas with an increase frequency, especially the more public areas that see traffic. Cleaning will be done by staff as well as outside contractors. The Village Hall and its staff have implemented additional sanitation measures to minimize any risks to staff and the public. If you need to come to the village office to pay a bill, we will be staffed to handle that, but we strongly urge everyone to sign up for online bill payments at Villageofcrete.org. There are a variety of payment options that can be found by clicking on the PSN logo on the home page.

As events continue to unfold daily, and with the current media coverage, it may be difficult to find the perfect balance between overreaction and carelessness, but rest assured that we will attempt to operate in the safest fashion possible and at the same time limit the effect on the public. Please practice patience if required and limit your travels outside of your home. Logic and common sense need to be exercised by everyone and don't let emotion drive your decisions.

The Village of Crete encourages residents to practice good hygiene that has been publicized and recommended, like hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, avoiding handshaking and staying out of crowds. If you feel sick and display symptoms associated with COVID-19, call 1-800889-3931 for specific information about what to do. You can also email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV. Most importantly, if you suspect that you might be infected, to the greatest degree possible, isolate yourself from others to prevent the spread of the virus and contact authorities as noted above or your personal physician for direction.

As we get through these next difficult weeks and months together, please be patient and remain calm. Most services will continue to operate as usual, and things will hopefully return to normal as soon as possible. It is very unlikely that there will be any food or water shortages, and we encourage residents to shop in Crete as usual to avoid a local economic recession. Working together, we will overcome this challenge.

For up-to-date information about COVID-19, please visit the Illinois Department of Public Health website: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>. Also, there are multiple web sites that have additional and comprehensive data on every phase of this epidemic.

Final Announcements

- The Crete Fire Department Annual Pancake Breakfast on April 5th is postponed until further notice.
- The Crete Memorial Day Parade has been cancelled for this year. Since we cannot predict what the circumstances might be later in the spring, we would need to incur expenses now to be ready for the event. Most of those purchased items are dated and would be rendered worthless if another date is chosen and they could not be used in a subsequent year.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to the Village Hall at 708-672-5431.

Sincerely,
Michael S. Einhorn
Village President



State of Illinois
Illinois Department of Public Health

COVID-19 Social Distancing

Social distancing actions are taken to restrict when and where people can gather to stop or slow the spread of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) or other infectious diseases in communities. Social distancing actions include limiting large groups of people coming together, closing buildings or canceling events.

Protect yourself and your community

Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid close contact with people who are sick and stay home when you're sick.



Change your daily habits

Avoid shopping at peak hours and take advantage of delivery or pick-up services with retailers.



Work with your employer

water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If you don't have soap or water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid close contact with people

Cooperate with leadership to change company practices, set up flexible shift plans, have employees telecommute, and cancel large meetings or conferences.



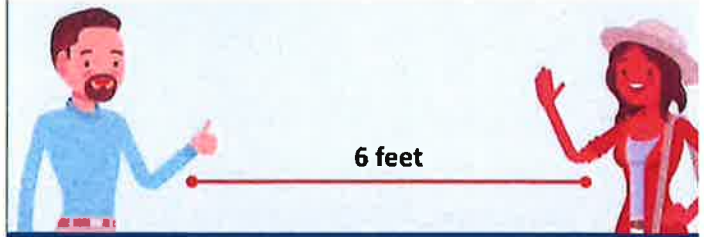
Universities and colleges

Keep at least six feet between you and others.

Consider suspending on campus classes, implementing web-based learning and canceling large campus meetings and gatherings.



Avoid shaking hands as a social greeting.



Public transit

Crowded places

Avoid public transit if possible and don't travel to areas with active outbreaks.

Avoid crowded places. Events with 1,000 or more people have been canceled. Community events with 250 or more recommended be canceled or postponed. Major sports events are canceled.



IDPH

Questions about COVID-19?

call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov Illinois Department of Public Health - www.dph.illinois.gov