

Dear Speculator Community:

THE GOVERNOR HAS ISSUED A DIRECTIVE TEMPORARILY BANNING ALL NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES, IN-OFFICE PERSONNEL FUNCTIONS AS WELL AS ALL NON-ESSENTIAL GATHERINGS OF INDIVIDUALS OF ANY SIZE FOR ANY REASON. (<https://on.ny.gov/3a9l3Jg>)

I encourage everyone to adhere to the PAUSE plan. The Speculator Community is aging and contains some of those most susceptible to the virus. With respect to Village operations, we have taken the necessary precautions to ensure compliance with these directives, while still providing essential services of trash and recycling, water and wastewater, and keeping public facilities disinfected on a more frequent basis. Please note that the County Transfer station is closed to the public and Lake Pleasant is not putting out their dumpster. I want to thank the Village staff for their commitment, as well as adherence to protocols aimed at limiting the exposure to the virus for them and our residents.

To second homeowners in our area, please stay in your primary residence during this COVID-19 crisis. Our region's local health care system, emergency services and local resources are not equipped to handle the increased influx. Businesses and restaurants are closed. And of course it also puts our population, older and vulnerable residents, emergency responders at risk. If you are already here, I ask you to be mindful of our community and self-impose a quarantine on yourselves—not just social isolation.

I also ask that all of us take to calling our family, friends and neighbors for daily check-ins. Not just for physical needs, but for emotional support as well. We need to take care of one another. Many do not have extended family in the area. Think about committing to “adopting” seniors and infirmed by calling them each day. Help them avoid public places, leave their groceries and medicines on the porch and refrain from going inside. Keep physical distance, not emotional.

The Governor's 10-point NYS on PAUSE plan is as follows:

1. Effective at 8PM on Sunday, March 22, all non-essential businesses statewide will be closed;
2. Non-essential gatherings of individuals of any size for any reason (e.g. parties, celebrations or other social events) are canceled or postponed at this time;
3. Any concentration of individuals outside their home must be limited to workers providing essential services and social distancing should be practiced;
4. When in public individuals must practice social distancing of at least six feet from others;
5. Businesses and entities that provide other essential services must implement rules that help facilitate social distancing of at least six feet;
6. Individuals should limit outdoor recreational activities to non-contact and avoid activities where they come in close contact with other people;
7. Individuals should limit use of public transportation to when absolutely necessary and should limit potential exposure by spacing out at least six feet from other riders;
8. Sick individuals should not leave their home unless to receive medical care and only after a telehealth visit to determine if leaving the home is in the best interest of their health;

9. Young people should also practice social distancing and avoid contact with vulnerable populations; and
10. Use precautionary sanitizer practices such as using isopropyl alcohol wipes.

"Matilda's Law" includes the following rules for vulnerable populations:

- Remain indoors;
- Can go outside for solitary exercise;
- Pre-screen all visitors and aides by taking their temperature and seeing if person is exhibiting other flu-like symptoms;
- Do not visit households with multiple people;
- Wear a mask when in the company of others;
- To the greatest extent possible, everyone in the presence of vulnerable people should wear a mask;
- Always stay at least six feet away from individuals; and
- Do not take public transportation unless urgent and absolutely necessary.

Sincerely,

Jeannette A. Barrett, PhD

Mayor, Village of Speculator