



March 25, 2020

## PRESS RELEASE

Contact information:

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### **Municipal service changes for Town of Essex and Village of Essex Junction**

ESSEX JCT., Vt.—Effective at 5:00 PM on March 25, 2020, in accordance with Gov. Scott’s “Stay Home, Stay Safe” Order, Town of Essex and Village of Essex Junction departments will suspend all in-person business operations in departments not providing a critical service for public health and safety. All municipal office buildings will continue to be closed to the public, with closures extended to April 15, 2020 to comply with the Governor’s Order, which was issued March 24, 2020.

During this time, the Town and Village are committed to providing services to our residents and customers.

Critical services and functions, including the Essex Police Department, Town and Village fire departments, public works departments and Wastewater, will continue operations by strictly adhering to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Vermont Department of Health guidance. Other departments **may** re-open by appointment only as the Town and Village determine which functions are considered essential government services under the Governor’s Order.

Brownell Library and Essex Free Library will stop all on-site library operations. Please do not return items until the library locations have been re-opened. Online services remain available to patrons.

Staff in all departments are available by phone and electronically, and will continue to monitor and respond to messages. Residents and customers are asked to conduct all municipal business electronically, by phone or by email.

Office closures and suspension of in-person business operations will remain in effect until April 15, 2020, and may be extended or shortened as the COVID-19 situation is monitored.

Additional municipal details are as follows:

- The Village of Essex Junction Annual Meeting and dinner on April 1, 2020 and voting on April 14, 2020 are canceled. The Trustees will reschedule the Annual Meeting to a later date. More information can be found on the Village website ([www.essexjunction.org](http://www.essexjunction.org)) as it becomes available.

- Secure drop boxes are available at the main entrance of the Town Offices (81 Main Street) and at the rear entrance of the Village Offices (2 Lincoln St.) Both boxes are checked daily. Please put any and all payments in the drop boxes. Your cashed check will serve as a receipt.
- Essential Town Selectboard and Village Board of Trustees meetings will continue as scheduled and are livestreamed by Channel 17. Visit [www.cctv.org/watch-tv/municipalities](http://www.cctv.org/watch-tv/municipalities) for links. Visit the Town and Village websites for information on participating in these meetings.

The best sources to stay informed regarding COVID-19, also known as “Coronavirus,” are the Vermont Department of Health ([www.healthvermont.gov](http://www.healthvermont.gov)) and the CDC ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) websites.

For more information on municipal updates, visit the Town and Village websites at [www.essexjunction.org](http://www.essexjunction.org) and [www.essex.org](http://www.essex.org). For questions, contact Greg Duggan, Deputy Manager/Public Information Officer (802-878-1341, [gduggan@essex.org](mailto:gduggan@essex.org)), or Tammy Getchell, Assistant to the Manager/Deputy Public Information Officer (802-878-6951, [tgetchell@essex.org](mailto:tgetchell@essex.org)).

#### **DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO**

Emergencies	9-1-1	
Administration/Manager’s Office	802-878-1341	<a href="mailto:manager@essex.org">manager@essex.org</a>
Assessor’s Office	802-878-1345	
Karen Lemnah, Assessor		<a href="mailto:klemnah@essex.org">klemnah@essex.org</a>
Brownell Library Main Desk	802-878-6955	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org">frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org</a>
Brownell Library Youth Desk	802-878-6956	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org">frontdesk@brownelllibrary.org</a>
Clerk’s Office	802-879-0413	<a href="mailto:clerk@essex.org">clerk@essex.org</a>
Community Development (Town of Essex)	802-878-1343	
Owiso Makuku, Director		<a href="mailto:omakuku@essex.org">omakuku@essex.org</a>
Sharon Kelley, Zoning Administrator		<a href="mailto:skelley@essex.org">skelley@essex.org</a>
Darren Schibler, Planner		<a href="mailto:dschibler@essex.org">dschibler@essex.org</a>
Community Development (Village of Essex Junction)	802-878-6950	
Robin Pierce, Community Development Director		<a href="mailto:robin@essexjunction.org">robin@essexjunction.org</a>
Terry Hass, Assistant Zoning Administrator		<a href="mailto:terry@essexjunction.org">terry@essexjunction.org</a>
Essex Free Library	802-879-0313	<a href="mailto:essexfreelibrary@essex.org">essexfreelibrary@essex.org</a>
Finance	802-878-1359	<a href="mailto:finance@essex.org">finance@essex.org</a>
Fire Department (Town of Essex)	802-878-8331 (non-emergency)	
Charles Cole, Chief		<a href="mailto:ccole@essex.org">ccole@essex.org</a>
Fire Department (Village of Essex Junction)	802-878-6958 (non-emergency)	
Parks and Recreation (EJRP and EPR)	802-878-1376	
		<a href="mailto:recreation@ejrp.org">recreation@ejrp.org</a>
Police Department	802-878-8331 (non-emergency)	<a href="mailto:info@epdvt.org">info@epdvt.org</a>
Public Works (Town of Essex)	802-878-1344	
Dennis Lutz, Director		<a href="mailto:dlutz@essex.org">dlutz@essex.org</a>
Public Works (Village of Essex Junction)	802-878-6944	
Rick Jones, Superintendent		<a href="mailto:rick@essexjunction.org">rick@essexjunction.org</a>
Rescue (not a municipal department)	802-878-4859	<a href="mailto:info@essexrescue.org">info@essexrescue.org</a>
Senior Center	802-876-5087	
Senior Van	802-878-6940	
Wastewater Treatment Facility	802-878-6943	
James Jutras, Water Quality Superintendent		<a href="mailto:jim@essexjunction.org">jim@essexjunction.org</a>