

May 2020

City of Odessa, Missouri

Odessa Outlook

Monthly Newsletter

Payment of Utility Bills and COVID-19

We recognize the importance in preventing COVID-19 involves regular and frequent hand washing and proper cleaning of surfaces. In response to this need, the City of Odessa will not assess late penalties or disconnect any utilities through the month of May. We ask that you keep payments current and communicate with us if circumstances arise where you may become delinquent on your account.

Currently, City Hall will remain closed to the public through May. To assist with paying your bill, we will waive the credit card convenience fee on all utility payments through May. This will give you the option to pay your bill over the phone or on our website with a credit or debit card free of charge. If you are unable to make a credit/debit card payment, please use either of the two secure payment drop boxes that the City offers. One is located at the front of City Hall with the other drive up drop box in the alley behind City Hall. Another option would be to sign up for our free auto draft payment program, in which your utility bill is automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account each month.

Severe Weather Information

The storm shelter at the Odessa Community of Christ Church, located at 515 S First Street, will continue to be open for severe weather. If you must use the shelter, please adhere to social distancing guidelines as best you can. We strongly encourage everyone to make plans to shelter in a place that is not a public gathering space if at all possible.

Door-to-Door Business Licenses Suspended

The Mayor has ordered the suspension of all current Door-to-Door business licenses. There is also a stay on the issuance of any further Door-to-Door business licenses through the month of May. If you have a solicitor come to your door, please contact the non-emergency police number at 816-633-7575.

Business License Fees Waived

The fee to renew an Odessa business license from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021, has been waived. This does not include new business licenses. All other rules and requirements apply.

Fishing Permits Waived

City permits to fish and/or boat at the City Lake (reservoir) have been waived through the month of May. A State fishing license is still required.

CALENDAR

May 11, 2020
Board of Aldermen Meeting

May 12, 2020
Municipal Court - Cancelled

May 25, 2020
Holiday – City Offices Closed



Municipal Court Cancelled Until June

The Odessa Municipal Court scheduled for May 12, 2020, has been cancelled. All cases scheduled for that docket, as well as the docket from April 21, 2020, and March 17, 2020, will be continued to the next court date of Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 1:30 pm. If you have any questions about your court date or possibly paying your fine prior to court, please contact the Municipal Court Clerk, Jennifer LeBlanc, at 816-230-5577, extension 7.

PARKS & RECREATION

Odessa Spring softball and baseball have been cancelled. The sign-up for Fall sport programs will begin June 1, 2020. This is earlier than usual to allow for additional practice time and camps to begin after July 18, 2020.

The Pool will open on July 1, 2020, with some restrictions in place. No lounge chairs or tables will be available. You may bring a towel to sit on. The concession stand will only be selling pre-packaged food. There will be increased cleaning of bathrooms and shared surfaces. Social distancing should be maintained. Season passes for the pool will not be available this year. Day passes and punch cards will be available for purchase.

Playground equipment, park restrooms, shelters, and basketball courts will remain closed until after July 18.



Odessa's 4-Step Recovery Plan for COVID-19**

This is just an overview. For the full proposed plan please visit the City's website.

STEP ONE – MAY 3 at 11:59 pm through MAY 16 at 11:59 pm

- Restaurants may offer dine-in but must follow the State's order restrictions of social distancing
- Nail salons, beauty shops, and barber shops may reopen provided they take extra precautionary measures
- Retail businesses will follow the State's order limiting occupancy to either 25% or 10% based off the State's formula
- Gathering size limitations of ten (10) people or less
- Social distancing must be maintained at six (6) feet

STEP TWO – MAY 16 at 11:59 pm* through JUNE 6 at 11:59 pm

- All businesses go to 50% of occupancy
- Gathering size limitations of fifty (50) people or less
- Social distancing must be maintained at six (6) feet

STEP THREE – JUNE 6 at 11:59 pm through JUNE 27 at 11:59 pm

- No occupancy restrictions on businesses
- Gathering size limitations of fifty (50) people or less
- Social distancing must be maintained at six (6) feet

STEP FOUR – JUNE 27 at 11:59 pm through JULY 18 at 11:59 pm

- No occupancy restrictions on businesses
- Gathering size limitations of 250 people or less
- Social distancing must be maintained at six (6) feet

After JULY 18, it is expected that all restrictions will be lifted, the City's active response to COVID-19 will cease, and any further guidance will come as a recommendation.

At any point during this process, if the healthcare system becomes overwhelmed, we may extend a step or move backwards a step. Please be patient and understanding with business owners as they take the necessary steps to open safely and abide by restrictions. If you have any questions, please email info@cityofodessamo.com

*All provisions of Step Two become effective after 11:59 pm on May 16, 2020, EXCEPT for the occupancy limits which will remain in accordance with the State of Missouri State Home Order. Should the State order be extended this provision will continue to model aforesaid order. If the State order is allowed to expire at 11:59 pm on May 31, 2020, then the occupancy provisions set forth above will become effective.

**This proposed plan will be brought before the Board of Aldermen on May 11, 2020, for their final consideration and approval.

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