PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release  CONTACT: Tim Owens, Town Manager  
(910) 239 - 1770

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  March 20, 2020

Town of Wrightsville Beach  
Response to COVID-19

The Mayor and Board of Aldermen of Wrightsville Beach have declared a State of Emergency for Wrightsville Beach. This order is in effect until March 31, 2020 or until otherwise lifted or extended.

Effective immediately, the oceanfront beach strand and soundside beaches of Wrightsville Beach have been closed to residents and visitors. All Town restroom facilities will be closed.

Residents and visitors are asked to refrain from using Town parks and other public spaces.

At this time, residents and visitors will still be able to enter and leave the Town without going through a checkpoint and displaying a Tax Decal (re-entry pass).

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DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY
Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina

WHEREAS, on Tuesday, March 10, 2020, Governor Cooper declared a State of Emergency to ensure that North Carolina was prepared and responding to the COVID-19 Virus; and

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 13, 2020, President Trump declared a National State of Emergency for the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the above-described COVID-19 Pandemic, we have determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or could cause, widespread or severe dangers for the safety of the public and the Town of Wrightsville Beach is taking preemptive measures to reduce the impacts of the virus; and

WHEREAS, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein are necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me as the Mayor of the Town of Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina under Article 1A of Chapter 166A of the North Carolina General Statutes:

Section 1. A State of Emergency is hereby declared within the corporate jurisdiction of the Town of Wrightsville Beach. The Beach Strand of Wrightsville Beach is closed to the public and all restroom facilities of the Town will be closed. Residents and visitors are encouraged to follow the advice of public health officials with regard to social distancing and proper sanitation techniques.

Section 2. The emergency area covered by this State of Emergency shall be the Town’s entire corporate jurisdiction.

Section 3. I hereby order all Town of Wrightsville Beach law enforcement officers and employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the Town of Wrightsville Beach Emergency Operations Plan.

Section 4. I hereby order this declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the Clerk to the Board of Aldermen and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

Section 5. This declaration shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until March 31, 2020 or at such time it is lifted or extended.

DECLARED this the 20th day of March, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

Sylvia J. Holleman, Town Clerk

F. Darryl Mills, Mayor
PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release

March 19, 2020

CONTACT: Tim Owens, Town Manager
PHONE: (910) 239 - 1770

Town of Wrightsville Beach
Response to COVID-19

The Town of Wrightsville Beach's priority is and always will be the safety and security of the community. Town officials are taking the current spread of COVID-19 very seriously and are working closely with New Hanover County and other partners in monitoring this situation. While there have been some changes to Town programming, arrangements are being made to ensure that all Town essential services are provided during this evolving situation. Some of the precautions that have been made at this time to limit the spread of the virus and other diseases include:

- In order to limit exposure to COVID-19, All Town Offices will be closed to walk-in visitors. Please conduct Town related business over the phone during regular business hours which are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm or via email.

  Town Hall: Tim Owens, Town Manager, towens@towb.org
  Melissa Norton, Finance Director, mnorton@towb.org
  (910) 256 - 7900

  Utility Billing: Amy Wolf, awolf@towb.org, (910) 256 - 7900

  Planning and Zoning: Tony Wilson, Planning & Parks Director, twilson@towb.org
  (910) 256 - 7937

  Police non-emergency: Chief Dan House, dhouse@towb.org
  (910) 256 - 7945

  Fire Department non-emergency: Chief Glen Rogers, grogers@towb.org
  (910) 256 - 7920

  Public Works: William Squires, Public Works Director, bsquires@towb.org
  (910) 256 - 7935

  Parks & Recreation: ParksAndRec@towb.org, (910) 256 - 7925

- All residents are encouraged to conduct utility payments with the Town by utilizing its on-line feature: https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/wrightsvillebeachnc/utilities

- You may also deposit your utility payments in our Town Hall utilities payment drop box located in the front vestibule at the entrance to Town Hall or by calling the Town offices at (910) 256-7900 to make your payment over the phone during normal business hours (Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.).

- All Town Parks and Recreation programs, facility reservations, and events are suspended until further notice. For more information, please call the park office at (910) 256–7925 or email ParksAndRec@towb.org.

- The Town will continue to monitor the situation and may have to take other preventive measures in the future.

- Other helpful COVID-19 related website links include:
  https://www.cdc.gov/
  https://governor.nc.gov/

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IMPORTANT REMINDER REGARDING DISPOSAL OF PRODUCTS INTO YOUR TOILET

The Town of Wrightsville Beach asks that customers avoid flushing products other than toilet paper down a toilet during COVID-19 cleaning.

Flushing products like sanitizing wipes or paper towels can clog toilets, potentially damaging fixtures and leading to costly plumbing repairs. These products can cause even bigger problems for our community’s wastewater system, where severe blockages can cause sewer main breaks and overflows.

Even wipes marketed as “flushable” are not toilet-friendly.

Dispose of all non-toilet paper products properly by throwing them in the garbage. This will help to keep both people and the environment healthy.

If you have any questions, please contact Bill Fay, Assistant Public Works Director at (910) 256 - 7935 or email bfay@towb.org.

Thank you for your cooperation.