

SOUTH FAYETTE CONNECT

Special Edition 2020

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SouthFayettePA.com/covid19

EXTRA

The Official Magazine of South Fayette Township

South Fayette police receive homemade masks

Cloth masks help protect each other from the coronavirus

By Andrea Iglar

Evonne Williams, the administrative assistant for the South Fayette Police Department, has used her crafting skills to produce cloth face masks for 21 police officers to help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Handy with the sewing machine, Ms. Williams folded and stitched each mask using dark blue cotton, fabric lining, strips of elastic for the ears and a twist tie for the bridge of the nose. Materials were donated.

"I'd do anything for those guys," Ms. Williams said.

Police Chief John Phoennik said officers can wear the washable, reusable cloth masks when responding to calls, reserving their more protective N95 respirator masks for higher risk situations.

Homemade cloth masks, plus other coronavirus prevention efforts such as social distancing and hand washing, help slow the spread of COVID-19.

The township has provided masks to all staff, including dozens that Ms. Williams sewed for police officers and Public Works employees.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health has required each resident to wear a non-medical mask across the nose and mouth in public to help protect others from potentially infectious respiratory droplets.

"If you must go out because you are out of food or medication, then wearing a mask or even a bandanna across your nose and mouth could be an extra layer of protection," state Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine said. "Your mask protects me; my mask protects you." 

Details: Search for "masks" at health.pa.gov or visit southfayettepa.com/COVID19.



South Fayette Township police officer Mike Blocher wears his mask April 6 outside the police station. (Photo by Andrea Iglar)

SPECIAL EDITION

South Fayette Township is publishing this extra edition to help inform and protect the public during the coronavirus pandemic.

HEALTH EMERGENCY

The top priority of South Fayette Township during this challenging time is the health and safety of our citizens and employees. The local government has filed an emergency declaration to support our response to the COVID-19 public health crisis.

ABOUT COVID-19

The coronavirus causes a respiratory illness called COVID-19 (coronavirus disease 2019), which can spread from person to person. Please follow the orders and recommendations of health officials to help slow the spread.

STAY-AT-HOME ORDER

A statewide stay-at-home order is in effect until at least May 8.

NEED HELP?

South Fayette Township is concerned about South Fayette residents who may be experiencing a hardship due to COVID-19 restrictions. If you need special assistance, please let us know so we can try to connect you with the resources to help:

- Leave a message on our 24-hour helpline: **412-221-8700, ext. 254**
- Submit an online form: **southfayettepa.com/help**
- Find resources: **southfayettepa.com/covid19**

Responses are confidential and shared only to the extent needed to provide assistance. The township does not have special access to supplies, but we are assessing community needs during this challenging time to determine how we may be able to help.





Township launches webpage of COVID-19 resources

Find coronavirus news, alerts, and resources for residents and businesses on the new webpage southfayettepa.com/covid19.



Building permits and inspections available to homeowners

The township is issuing building permits and performing inspections for do-it-yourself and contracted home projects. Contractors must be permitted to work under state COVID-19 regulations and demonstrate they comply with state orders as part of the permit review process. Township inspections may be done remotely or under social distancing guidelines. Details: 412-221-8700, ext. 215, or southfayettepa.com/building.

Library offers virtual programs

The South Fayette Township Library is offering online programming for children, teens and adults. Go to the library's YouTube page and social media sites. Details: southfayettelibrary.org.

Schools launch online learning

The South Fayette School District campus is closed for the rest of the academic year, but students continue distance learning. Details: southfayette.org.

State sets guidelines for easing COVID-19 restrictions

Pennsylvania will follow a 3-phase, gradual process for easing restrictions on work, gatherings and social interactions. Timelines will vary in different parts of the state, depending on health and safety data. Please follow state orders and guidelines. Details: governor.pa.gov.

Yard waste collection Sat. May 2

Curbside leaf collection is Sat. May 2 in South Fayette. The night before, place yard waste at the curb in biodegradable paper bags no heavier than 25 pounds each. Yard waste may include leaves, hedge/tree/garden trimmings, brush, lawn edging and grass clippings.



Waste Management temporarily limits trash collection

Waste Management must temporarily limit weekly trash collection throughout Pennsylvania due to COVID-19.



All trash must be secured in trash bags and be placed inside garbage cans if possible. Please limit the number of bags outside a container to two bags only. Loose items will not be collected.

These items are **NOT** being accepted:

- Yard/leaf waste - grass clippings, brush, tree limbs, leaves (except during special yard waste pickup Sat. May 2)
- Bulk Items - furniture, carpet rolls, mattresses, appliances, etc.
- Spring cleanups - any type of excess trash from spring cleaning

All recyclables must be placed inside recycling bins (including cardboard). Do not bag recyclables. Items left outside the bin will not be picked up. As always, electronics and TVs are prohibited.

Collection times are never guaranteed. All waste must be placed at the curb the night before, or by 6 a.m. on pickup day.

Details: southfayettepa.com/recycle.

Green ideas for grass clippings

Here some environmentally friendly ideas for using your grass clippings:

- Let lie, or evenly redistribute, to feed your lawn
- Add to compost
- Use as mulch in garden beds or planting containers
- Mix with water to make liquid plant feed



Details: www.motherearthnews.com.

Wood Waste recycling facility accepts small tree limbs

South Fayette residents may drop off leaves or tree limbs up to 4 inches in diameter at the township's wood waste recycling center, 2121 Ridge Road, in Boys Home Park. Commercial use is prohibited.

- No plastic bags
- No grass clippings
- No branches larger than 4" diameter
- No tree stumps

Meetings held electronically

South Fayette Township's public meetings are being held electronically only, with a computer, smartphone and/or telephone, until further notice. Details: southfayettepa.com/agendacenter.

Eateries offer takeout, delivery

Many restaurants in South Fayette are offering food for takeout or delivery. They include Bee'z, Blaze, Chipotle, Dunkin', Five Guys, GetGo, Hunners, Jimmy John's, Lions Den, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Portman's, Sheetz and Tap That. Details: southfayettepa.com/covid19.

Recreational fires limited

Allegheny County is asking residents to please limit open burning to help people with lung or heart illnesses during the COVID-19 crisis. Smoke can make certain people more vulnerable or worsen their symptoms. Trash burning is always prohibited. To report a nuisance fire, call 412-687-2243. Fire guidelines: www.southfayettepa.com/burning.



Respond to 2020 Census

Help your community by responding to the U.S. Census. Respond by mail, call 844-330-2020 or visit 2020census.gov.

Flush toilet paper only

Toilet paper is the only paper product that should be flushed down toilets. All other used products should be disposed of in the trash. Sewage systems, plumbing and toilets can clog from flushing baby wipes, paper towels, napkins, facial tissues and so-called "flushable" wipes, which actually are not sewer-friendly.



COVID-19 BASICS

Here are guidelines related to the disease COVID-19, caused by the new coronavirus. Information is from the Allegheny County Health Department, Pennsylvania Department of Health and federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Prevention

- Stay home. If you must leave, cover nose and mouth with a cloth mask.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid contact with anyone sick.

Symptoms

Symptoms of COVID-19 may appear from 2 to 14 days after exposure.

In combination, symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Diarrhea

I Have Symptoms. Now What?

If they're mild: Stay home, rest and drink fluids. Take acetaminophen (Tylenol) to bring down your fever. If you feel worse, call your doctor.

If they're severe: For a fever above 100° or other serious symptoms, call your doctor. If you don't have a health care provider, call 1-877-PA-HEALTH.

If it's an emergency: Call 9-1-1.

Testing

If you think you may be sick, stay home and consult with your doctor on the need for testing. Most people with mild illness can recover at home without medical care and may not need to be tested. 📺

Resources: Call 1-888-856-2774 or visit southfayettepa.com/covid19.

CALL 911 IF YOU:



HAVE DIFFICULTY BREATHING / CHOKING



HAVE AN ALLERGIC REACTION



HAVE SYMPTOMS OF HEART ATTACK / STROKE



ARE CONFUSED, DISORIENTED OR DIZZY



HAVE DIFFICULTY SPEAKING, WALKING + SEEING



HAVE SUDDEN, SEVERE PAIN

DO NOT CALL 911 IF YOU: *Courtesy of PA Emergency Management Agency*



WANT INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19



NEED A RIDE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE



WANT TO GET TESTED



HAVE MILD SYMPTOMS*



HOME COOKING

Taylor Peters, 12, of South Fayette Township planned a special "hibachi night" meal for her family in the Newbury neighborhood to liven up dinnertime while sheltering at home. She planned a menu, decorated the kitchen and cooked the food for her parents and her brother. (Submitted photo)

COVID-19: PHYSICAL DISTANCING IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TRAILS

Do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.

Share the trail and warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass.

Be prepared for limited access to public restrooms or water fountains.

Observe CDC's minimum recommended physical distancing of 6' from other persons at all times.

Follow CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to visiting parks or trails.

Green spaces open; playgrounds, pavilions closed

Open spaces and trails in South Fayette parks remain open, but all playgrounds and pavilions are closed until further notice.

The temporary closures apply to Fairview Park, Boys Home Park, Sturgeon Park, Morgan Park, Preservation Park, Treveskyn Park, and facilities at the Sturgeon and Mill Street crossings of the Panhandle Trail.

Exercise only with people you live with. Please do not gather in groups or play organized sports. Parks: southfayettepa.com/parks.



SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP

A Community Growing Together

515 Millers Run Road | South Fayette, PA 15064

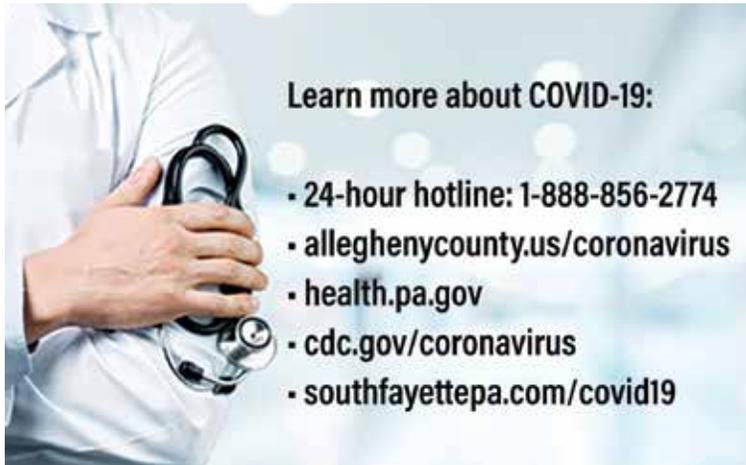


Township staff continues providing services

The South Fayette Township offices, police station and senior center, 515 Millers Run Road, are closed to the public until further notice to help slow the spread of COVID-19. All in-person activities are canceled or postponed. Employees continue working, with office staff using



phone, email, mail, fax and web. A drop box is located in a recycling bin outside the office doors. Use our online Request Tracker any time to contact us about trash and recycling, roads or other issues: southfayettepa.com/request. Find staff email addresses at southfayettepa.com/staff.



Learn more about COVID-19:

- 24-hour hotline: 1-888-856-2774
- alleghenycounty.us/coronavirus
- health.pa.gov
- cdc.gov/coronavirus
- southfayettepa.com/covid19

Sign up to receive
Emergency Alerts and News
via email or text:

SouthFayettePA.com/NotifyMe

South Fayette Township

South Fayette Township

515 Millers Run Road, South Fayette PA 15064

Phone: 412-221-8700 Fax: 412-221-7798

SouthFayettePA.com magazine@sftwp.com



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twitter.com/SouthFayetteTwp



linkedin.com/company/SouthFayetteTownship



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Peggy Patterson, Executive Assistant x 210

Parks & Recreation

Paula Willis, Director x 217

Liz Fager, Administrator x 222

Communications &

SF Connect Magazine

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Engineering, Planning & Building

Andrew W. Blenko, Director x 229

Lynette King, Assistant x 219

Gary Hartz, Building Code Official x215

Joe Niedermeyer, Inspector x 212

John Kanaskie, Engineer Technician

Public Works

Butch Truitt, Director x 223

Nick Nickolas, Superintendent

Dan Dernosek, Foreman

Police

John Phoennik, Chief of Police

Evonne Williams, Police Secretary

Police Business Office: 412-221-2170

Emergency & Dispatch: 9-1-1

Finance

Shannen McKahan, Assistant x 221

Community Resources

Business Resources

South West Communities Chamber of Commerce:

412-221-4100, southwestcommunitieschamber.org

Driving & Motor Vehicles

Dates extended for drivers license renewals and vehicle inspections

Pennsylvania Dept. of Transportation: 800-932-4600, penndot.gov

Dye Tests & Sewage Bills

Municipal Authority: 412-257-5100, matsf.net

Food Assistance

Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank: 412-460-3663, pittsburghfoodbank.org

Senior Food Box: 412-221-8700, southfayettepa.com/foodbox

Taxes

Internal Revenue Service (IRS): irs.gov/coronavirus (Tax Day is July 15)

Real Estate Tax: Kevin Biber, 412-221-9250, southfayettepa.com/tax

Earned Income Tax: Jordan Tax Service, 412-835-5243, jordantax.com

Vote By Mail

Tues. June 2 is the Primary Election in Allegheny County. Everyone can apply for a mail-in ballot: 412-350-4500, allegHENYvotes.com

Police, Fire, Ambulance: 9-1-1