



# Emergency Management

Elizabeth City - Pasquotank - Camden

# Situation Update

Thursday - March 26, 2020

**\* Updated or new information is indicated in red fonts**

**A LOCAL STATE OF EMERGENCY IS IN EFFECTIVE FOR PASQUOTANK AND CAMDEN COUNTIES AND THE CITY OF ELIZABETH CITY, EFFECTIVE 8:00 AM, MARCH 17, 2020**

Governor Cooper issued Executive Order 117 which prohibits the mass gathering of more than 100 persons in a single room or single space at the same time and the statewide closure of k-12 public schools to limit the spread of COVID-19, effective March 14, 2020. Order can be viewed at: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO117-COVID-19-Prohibiting-Mass-Gathering-and-K12-School-Closure.pdf>

Governor Cooper announced that NC restaurants and bars will be closed to sit-down service and limited to take-out or delivery orders starting at 5 pm, March 17, 2020. Full Executive Order 118 can be viewed at: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO118.pdf>

Governor Cooper has issued an Executive Orders facilitating critical motor vehicle operations and delegating authority to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to waive regulations in order to expand access to child care and support local health departments. Full Executive Order 119 can be viewed at: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO119.pdf>

Governor Cooper has issued Executive Order 120 which bans crowds of more than 50 people and requires certain businesses to close, such as movie theaters, hair salons, health clubs, etc. It also extends school closures statewide to May 15, 2020 and limits visitors to long-term care facilities. Full Executive Order 120 can be viewed at: <https://files.nc.gov/governor/documents/files/EO120.pdf>

## Pasquotank County – 1 Confirmed Case

Camden County – 0

NC Cases*	NC Deaths	NC Completed Tests**
636	2	12,910

\* This number reflects positive results from all tests, including the NC State Laboratory of Public Health and all **hospital** and commercial labs.

\*\* This number reflects testing completed by including the NC State Laboratory of Public Health and all **hospital** and commercial labs.

VA Cases	Number of People Tested	Hospitalized	Deaths
460	6,189	65	13

United States and Global Case Totals are available at:

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

## Pasquotank County

The public is encouraged to limit non-essential in-person interaction with Pasquotank County employees and departments when at all possible to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Citizens are encouraged to use any online services that may be available in addition to communicating with Pasquotank County employees via email or telephone.

1. Before visiting a Pasquotank County department in person, please explore the Pasquotank County website at [www.pasquotankcountync.org](http://www.pasquotankcountync.org) or call the desired department to determine if alternative service delivery options are available.
2. All citizens who are experiencing any type of respiratory or flu-like symptoms should not visit any Pasquotank County facility. Please call to make alternative arrangements for service provision.

The following additional measures will be implemented for Pasquotank County effective at 8:00 a.m. on Friday, March 20, 2020:

1. The **Planning and Inspections** customer service counter in the Pasquotank County Courthouse will close, and a Planning staff member will assist customers in the Tax Office at 203 East Main Street.
2. The **Register of Deeds** (ROD) customer service counter will close, and a ROD staff member will assist customers in the Tax Office. The ROD's vault will continue to be open, with steps taken to limit the number of customers at one time.
3. The **GIS Office** will close, and the GIS Coordinator will be called to the Tax Office to assist any walk-in customers in the Tax Office.
4. To make **tax** payments, the public can also use the drop box located behind the Pasquotank County Tax Office. If a receipt is desired, please indicate on your payment.

The **Pasquotank County Board of Elections** is closed to the public, effective March 20, 2020 at 12:00 pm until further notice. The normal duties of the office will still be administered and all staff will be available by phone or by email.

The **Pasquotank Library** will be closed to the public beginning at 6:30pm Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> until further notice. Staff will continue to work.

The **Pasquotank Public Safety Building** will be closed beginning at 8:00am Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> to the public. Staff will continue to work and will be available by phone.

**Pasquotank County Extension Office/4-H** has cancelled or postponed all meetings and programs at this time. The office will continue to be staffed but it will be as one on one visits with clients or use of internet based meetings. The Albemarle Area 4-H Livestock Show & Sale will be cancelled for this year. Access detailed information regarding animals/sale at: [https://camden.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/03/albemarle-area-4-h-livestock-show-cancelled/?fbclid=IwAR21OBo9eQfgtGQdgbaOZd31\\_yAC0d2g-3mdyI572JvpZPx-z9Ukp6r2wbQ](https://camden.ces.ncsu.edu/2020/03/albemarle-area-4-h-livestock-show-cancelled/?fbclid=IwAR21OBo9eQfgtGQdgbaOZd31_yAC0d2g-3mdyI572JvpZPx-z9Ukp6r2wbQ)

**Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS)** began a health screening process effective 8:00 am, March 19<sup>h</sup> to enter the Department of Social Services/ARHS facility at 711 Roanoke Avenue.

**Pasquotank Department of Social Services** - The screening Triage Station is operated by Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) and does include temperature readings for fevers. If you pass the screening station with no 'red flags', you will be directed to the DSS front desk to conduct as much business as possible in an effort to reduce the risk of transmission and physical contact with staff. If you do not pass the screening station, you will be redirected outside of the building at which time a worker will contact you by phone or meet you outside to conduct business. Services conducted outside will be done with respect to everyone's safety, health and well-being at a minimal distance of 6 feet. With respect to

confidentiality, we will seek to obtain as much information as possible by phone or other means and will have an alternate location in the parking lot away from other customers.

Individuals can apply for benefits (Adult Medicaid, Family & Children's Medicaid, Food & Nutrition Services) through the ePass website and options are available to print an application and mail in/drop off if preferred. <https://epass.nc.gov/CitizenPortal/application.do>.

At this time, the following programs require an in-person application and cannot be completed online:

- Work First Family Assistance/Employment Services
- Including Re-certifications
- Medicaid for Special Assistance

## **Camden County**

The public is encouraged to limit non-essential in-person interaction with Camden County employees and departments when at all possible to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Citizens are encouraged to use any online services that may be available in addition to communicating with Camden County employees via email or telephone.

Before visiting a Camden County department in person, please explore the website at [www.camdencountync.gov](http://www.camdencountync.gov) or call the desired department to determine if alternative service options are available.

### **The Planning / Inspections / GIS:**

- Limit non-essential in-person contact with employees and departments when at all possible. Employees should wear gloves when handling money or other paper documents.
- Inspectors in office staff should remain behind glass for conversation with contractors.
- Inspectors should have masks available in field for inspections inside occupied houses and should maintain social distance when conversing with workers on site.
- Plats and surveys needing approval and signatures should be left at front desk. Staff can meet in front lobby or outside keeping distance.

### **The Register of Deeds (ROD) – normal operating hours with the following restrictions:**

- Couples may enter to purchase Marriage Licenses but bring no others with them. License must be used in North Carolina within the 60 day period. No refunds will be issued.
- Vault access will be limited to attorney's, their staff, and land surveyors.
- No genealogy research until further notice.
- Citizens with vital record request are encouraged to call ahead of time to verify record is available.

### **Tax Office:**

- Limited number of people in lobby. Appointments should be made in advance if there is a need to talk to staff. Instructions will be posted on door.
- Customers can place payment in the drop box. If paying cash customers should have the exact amount; if paying by check a receipt will be mailed.

### **Water:**

- No offices are closing but limit in office transactions, directing customers to pay online at [ww.camdencountync.gov](http://ww.camdencountync.gov), or call 877-885-7968 for card transactions or account information.

### **Social Services:**

- Camden DSS Office is closed to the public, however, all calls are being received and applications are being accepted, using paper applications.
- If a client needs to provide information to their worker they can utilize the drop box at the front entrance of the agency (make sure you include your name), send an email, fax, or call their worker. Office: 252-331-4787 Fax: 252-335-1009.
- Individuals needing to apply for Medicaid and/or Food Stamps can do so online through the ePass website at <https://epass.nc.gov>; with the exception of Work First (including recertification) and Special Assistance/Assisted Living, which requires a face-to-face interview. If a face-to-face interview is required clients should call the agency ahead of time so appropriate arrangements can be made to accommodate them to ensure the safety of staff.
- For residents that cannot apply online and an application is needed they can call into the agency to request one be mailed to them or there will be some for pick up in the DSS reception area. Once the application has been completed the drop box at the front entrance can be utilized or mailed to the agency.
- If it is necessary to come into the agency, as much business as possible will be done at the front desk to limit contact with staff.

### **Sheriff's Office:**

Beginning Monday March 23rd, the office will be closed to pedestrian traffic for a minimum of two weeks. Sheriff's Office employees will still be working within the confines of the office.

**Camden County Senior Center** will be closed to the public effective 5:00 PM Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> until further notice. All activities and trips are cancelled. The situation will be re-evaluated in two weeks. The Senior Center will be fully cleaned and sanitized before reopening.

**Camden Parks and Recreation** programs are cancelled through March 27<sup>th</sup>. This will be reassessed on March 26<sup>th</sup> and updated as needed.

The **Camden County library** will be closed to the public effective 6:00pm on Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> until further notice. Staff will continue to work and will be available by phone 9:00am – 5:00pm Monday-Friday (252) 331-2543

**South Mills Volunteer Fire Department** has taken action to limit meetings and all unnecessary activities. They are business as usual with an emphasis on PPE {Gloves, Mask Etc.....}. Officers have been asked to only have the personnel on scene that is necessary to handle the call and cancel all other responding units that are not needed.

**The Dismal Swamp Visitor Center** will be closed to the public until further notice. Visitor Center staff will continue to answer phone calls and emails, etc. and the Center will be thoroughly cleaned.

The **Camden County 4-H** has temporarily suspended education programming at this time. For the remainder of March this primarily impacts planned 4-H activities. Additionally, with Camden County Schools being closed, all 4-H school enrichment activities are being postponed. The office is still open and receiving client calls/walk-ins and making farm visits.

**NC Forest Service – Camden County** office is staffed M-F 8-5 but closed to the public. All Information & Education programs and Prescribed Burning has been cancelled. Burning Permits will be issued online only starting 3/20/20 @ noon.

## Elizabeth City

Effective 8:00 March 26<sup>th</sup> Mariner's Wharf and Waterfront Park Marinas are closed indefinitely. No vessel of any kind shall be allowed to dock or stay at either location until further notice. This closure of the marinas is directly related to the COVID-10 State of Emergency.

The following Elizabeth City buildings are closed:

- **Knobbs Creek Recreation Center**
- **ECPC Senior Center**
- **Hugh Cale Community Resource Center (closed to the public)**
- **Griffin Street Customer Payment Center**
- **Elizabeth City Public Safety Building (lobby only)**

**Elizabeth City Customers Services.** Effective Monday March 23, 2020 - Due to the concerns regarding COVID-19 the Customer Service lobby at City Hall, 306 E Colonial Avenue, is CLOSED. Please use the drive-through or kiosk to make payments. If you need to apply for new service please call 338-3981 to make an appointment.

**Elizabeth City Public Utilities** – will suspend utility disconnect for the next two weeks for all residential customers.

### **NC Dominion Power reports:**

- Will not shut off power for nonpayment.
- Reconnecting residential customers whose services were shut off.

### **Postponement of Public Events**

- The 2020 TarWheel Cycling Event scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> has been postponed.
- The 2020 NC Potato Festival scheduled for May 15-17 has been postponed.
- The 2020 Bocce Beer and Bites scheduled for April 24 has been postponed.  
**Rescheduled Dates for these Special Events to be determined**
- The 2020 Camden Heritage Day Festival has been rescheduled for September 12, 2020.
- Paddle for the Border scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup> has been cancelled.

**Nursing Homes/Assisted Living Facilities/Home Care:** Restricting visitors to facility unless absolutely necessary. Staff is being screened for flu-like symptoms.

**Citadel of Elizabeth City** is accepting patients! All patients, whether new or returning, will be monitored for 48-hours in an isolation room upon admission. Then arranged a roommate (if applicable) if medically cleared.

**Community Home Care and Hospice** continues to operate normal hours but office is restricted to visitors and employees are practicing social distancing. Screening patients and employees for risk and symptoms is in place and company is working on a way to teleconference with patients should it be needed.

**Albemarle District Jail** All professional visits have been suspended. Attorneys will be denied entry and are advised to use Juris Link for legal visits. Bondsmen will be denied entry. Paperwork must be conducted prior to entering the jail and completed paperwork will be given to a staff member at the door for processing. All weekenders for Probation & Parole will be suspended for 30 days. All deliveries (UPS, FEDEX, and USPS) will not be allowed in the building.

**All Public and Private k-12 Schools are closed until 3/30/2020 in Pasquotank and Camden Counties.**

**Camden County Schools** - Camden County Schools has moved to a working remotely model for most employees as of Friday, March 20. Schools are closed by order of the Governor until May 15, 2020. Schools are open with limited staff, and the public is not to come to the schools unless absolutely necessary. Schools are conducting deep cleaning during this closure period. Students are being instructed through educational materials mostly in an online format. Grab and go lunches are available daily (Monday - Friday) at Grandy Primary School in the cafeteria 11:30AM - 1:00PM. Updated information is provided at <https://ccsnc.org/>.

**Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools** – Schools are closed by order of the Governor until May 15, 2020. Pre-K students will receive instruction via packets from their teacher. Online resources will be posted for parents who have devices available. Parents of K-2 students will receive instructions via packets/online from their child's teacher. Students in grades 3-12 will be assigned a school issued device for virtual instruction unless parents have indicated a school issued device is not needed. More information about online instruction and packets will be provided by your school. Updated information is provided at <https://www.ecpps.k12.nc.us/>.

ECPPS will continue to provide breakfast (7:30 am-9:30 am) and lunch (12:00pm-2:00pm) beginning March 17th at the following schools:

J.C. Sawyer Elementary School - 1007 Park St.

Pasquotank Elementary School - 1407 Peartree Rd.

Sheep-Harney Elementary School - 200 W. Elizabeth St.

Meals are available to all youth ages 1 to 18, or still enrolled in K-12 school. NOTE: Exceptional Children students are eligible up to age 22.

**Institutes of Higher Learning** - Elizabeth City State University, Mid-Atlantic Christian University and College of the Albemarle - each of these institutes of high learnings websites should be monitored for updates.

**Girls, Inc.**

Hours: 7:30am-6:00pm. Girls allowed to complete classroom work. Openings are available. Contact 335-7346 or more information.

**Sentara Albemarle Medical Center**

A Triage Tent has been established adjacent to the Emergency Department at Sentara Albemarle Medical Center. This is a collaborative effort of forward preparedness in the event SAMC becomes overwhelmed during this COVID-19 event.

Sentara Albemarle Medical Center has suspended all routine visiting until the transmission of COVID-19 is no longer a threat to patients, staff and community; with some exceptions. Visit [www.sentara.com/coronavirus](http://www.sentara.com/coronavirus) for exception and additional information.

**Drive-Thru COVID-19 screening and testing site in Virginia in close proximity to Pasquotank/Camden – Military Circle, 880 Military Hwy, Norfolk and Sentara Princess Anne Hospital, 2025 Glenn Mitchell Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.**

Citizens with symptoms of COVID-19, are asked to contact their primary care provider or the Sentara COVID-19 Call Center before visiting a Sentara Healthcare location. If it is not an emergency, they are "kindly" asked to remain at home. Sentara (including Sentara Albemarle Medical Center) still has the ability to test high-risk COVID-19 patients inside their hospitals. They ask citizens if they believe they meet the criteria for testing to please call the hospital before arriving to receive proper instructions and also review the testing criteria at [www.sentara.com/coronavirus](http://www.sentara.com/coronavirus) before leaving your home.

The Sentara COVID-19 Call Center (1-833-945-2395) is now open and ready to serve our community. The Call Center will:

- \*Operate seven days a week from 9:00am to 7:00pm.
- \*Direct callers to appropriate resources based on nurses' evaluations.
- \*Answers questions about signs & symptoms based on current CDC guidelines.
- \*Provide information on Sentara policies and our COVID-19 response.
- \*NOT schedule appointments, provide testing recommendations, or test results.

Follow Sentara Updates at: <https://sentaraupdates.com/>

**All Emergency Services are operating – protocols are in place for response, use of Personal Protective Equipment and cleaning and disinfecting of vehicles/equipment.**

**WE ENCOURAGE OUR CITIZENS TO LIMIT THEIR EXPOSURE AND PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING BY CONDUCTING BUSINESS VIA DRIVE-THRU, KIOSK, TELEPHONE OR INTERNET WHENEVER POSSIBLE.**