

Town Hall Bulletin

TOWN OF INDIAN TRAIL NEWSLETTER

April-May 2020



A Message from Mayor Michael Alvarez on COVID-19

Dear Neighbors,

The past month has been challenging for everyone on so many levels. And with Governor Cooper's Stay At Home Order in place for another week, with the possibility of an extension, we must continue to do our part to keep each other safe and healthy.

Thank you for all you have done so far. It is working. Even though we are starting to see some positive trends in the data, it does not mean it is time to go back to normal. We still have a ways to go, so please continue to:

- STAY HOME as much as you can. Enjoy your backyard or take a walk around your neighborhood. The only people that should be in your home are the ones who live there on a regular basis.
- Take social distancing seriously and practice it by keeping 6 feet between you and other people when you must go out in public. Avoid social gatherings and large groups. Remind your children, parents and friends of how important this is.
- Wear a face covering, such as a bandana, neck gather or homemade mask, in public places where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as grocery stores.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Take only what you need when shopping so there are enough supplies and food for everyone.
- Communicate factual information. Not everything you see online or on social media is accurate. Before sharing information, make sure it has come from a reputable source, such as the CDC or the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.



While the world deals with this situation, stay humble and pray for each other. Check on your neighbors and help where you can. I continue to see so many examples of our community coming together to help one another. I truly believe that we will come out on the other side of this as better human beings and a stronger community.

As always, my phone (980-210-1320) and e-mail (malvarez@indiantrail.org) are always available for any resident who wishes to talk. Additionally, I would like to thank everyone for all the encouragement and prayers that have been sent my way during my current health struggles. They are all appreciated.

May God bless you all.

Respectfully,
Mayor Michael Alvarez



Stay Home. Stay Safe. Save Lives.

Indian Trail Rentals and Programs Canceled, Events Postponed

In following with Governor Roy Cooper's Stay At Home Order, as well as the ban on gatherings of 10 people or more, Indian Trail has decided to cancel any rental and/or program that will take place on Town property through May 31, when we will reevaluate the situation. This includes:

- All shelter, field and community room rentals
- Senior programs, such as Cards & Coffee, Monday Mahjong and field trips
- All programs for preschoolers and adults

Additionally, all community events scheduled through early June have been postponed.

- Hits After Six: Jazz scheduled for March 20
- Friday Flicks scheduled for March 27
- Hop to IT scheduled for April 4
- Touch a Truck scheduled for April 18
- Hits After Six: New Kids scheduled for April 23
- Paws in the Park scheduled for May 2
- Family Fun Day scheduled for June 6

The Retro Run & 80s Concert scheduled for May 23 has been canceled.

Our events are the highlights of the year, and we always look forward to bringing the community together. Our goal is to reschedule these events for a later date.

In the meantime, please continue to stay home, and practice social distancing when you must go out in public.



Governor's Stay At Home Order in Effect

Governor Roy Cooper's Stay At Home Order, which was issued on March 30, 2020, is still in effect through the end of April. If needed, Governor Cooper can revise or extend the order. At the time of this writing, the Governor's Office has not announced what will happen when the original order expires.

As a reminder, the Order mandates people should stay at their residences and limit social interactions and travel for essential activities or essential business purposes.

Under the Stay At Home Order, residents should not:

- Go to work unless you are providing an essential service as stated in the order
- Visit friends or family unless there is an urgent need
- Hold public or private gatherings of 10 or more people
- Visit loved ones in the hospital or other care facility
- Travel except for essential travel and activities

Essential businesses can remain open while maintaining social distancing guidelines.

Please continue to stay home as much as possible. If you must go out, limit your trips, practice social distancing and wear a face covering.

To view the full order, visit <http://indiantrail.org/548/North-Carolina-Stay-At-Home-Order>.

CDC Recommendation: Wear Face Coverings in Public

If you must leave home, the CDC now recommends wearing a cloth face covering in public where social distancing may be difficult to maintain. This recommendation comes after findings that people who are pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic can still spread COVID-19. Face coverings help reduce this risk.

Examples of face coverings include:

- Bandanas
- Neck gathers
- Homemade face masks

Face coverings should be made of a thick material that when held up to the light, does not let any light pass through. For directions on making your own, visit <https://tinyurl.com/wdII8aI>.

Please DO NOT purchase surgical or N95 masks, as these are in short supply and are needed by healthcare providers and first responders.



Beware of COVID-19 Scams and Fraud Schemes

Sadly, scammers like to take advantage of a crisis to scheme people out of money or their personal information. Avoid the following scams and be cautious when answering e-mails, text or phone calls.



Fake Charities. Scammers use a crisis to take advantage of people's generosity. Carefully research a charity before making a donation.



Phone Scams. Beware of robocalls selling COVID-19 cures or work-from-home schemes. Also, the Social Security Administration nor the IRS will ever ask for money over the phone. Financial relief will not be offered via text or phone.



E-mail Phishing. Don't click on links from senders you aren't familiar with. Watch for e-mails claiming to be from the CDC or experts saying they have information about the virus. As with phone scams, the Social Security Administration nor the IRS will contact you via e-mail.



Undelivered Goods. Before purchasing high-demand items online, verify the seller is legitimate so you don't pay for something then never receive it.



Miracle Cures. No product exists that will prevent you from getting COVID-19 or will cure you if you have it. There is no door-to-door testing or vaccinations. Additionally, there is no online test for coronavirus.



Misinformation. Make sure your information about COVID-19 is coming from reliable sources, such as the CDC or the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Small Business Scams

Just like individuals, businesses aren't immune to scams and fraud schemes. If you are a business owner, please be aware of the following:

- Fake Small Business Association (SBA) Grants. The SBA will not initiate contact with you regarding any sort of loan or grant. If you have not applied for a grant or a loan and receive an e-mail, text or phone call from someone claiming to be from the SBA, it is most likely a scam.
- Requests for up-front payment. If you are contacted by someone who promises you approval of an SBA loan, but requires up-front payment, suspect fraud.
- Phishing scams. Watch out for e-mail/online scams using the SBA logo. The presence of logo does not guarantee the information is accurate or endorsed by the SBA. If any correspondence asks for Personally Identifiable Information (PII), related to a loan application, make sure it is legitimate. Verify the communication you receive is from accounts ending in sba.gov and make sure the referenced PII number matches the one you have on file.

Accessing Town Hall Services

Although Town Hall may be closed to the public for in-person services, Town operations related to Administration, Planning & Zoning, Finance, Human Resources, Public Works, Communications, Engineering and Parks & Recreation will continue but with reduced in-person capacity. If you have a need, please continue to reach out to the appropriate department for service by calling 704.821.5401.

The Tax Department will continue to accept payments by mail, over the phone (704.821.5401) or through the online portal (<https://wipp.edmundsassoc.com/Wipp/?wippid=600>). If you need to make a payment in person, please do so by check if possible and use the outdoor drop box. It will be checked multiple times throughout the workday.

Plans, permits or any related documents for our Planning Department should be provided digitally. If you are unable to do so, please call Town Hall at 704.821.5401 to set up another arrangement.

Solid Waste and Recycling: News and Reminders

Yard Waste Pick-Up Suspended

In an effort to keep its employees safe and minimize their risk of exposure to COVID-19, God Bless the USA, Inc., Indian Trail's solid waste provider, will be **suspending yard waste pick-up beginning Monday, April 20, 2020**, until further notice.

Bulk Pick-Up Delayed

The Town of Indian Trail, in partnership with God Bless the USA, has decided to **delay the regularly scheduled bulk waste pick-up in May**. This decision was made to reduce the risk of solid waste employees being exposed to COVID-19 as they must physically touch the bulk waste to dispose of it.

Solid waste and recycle routes will continue as normal.

Please note, GB USA will not pick-up anything left outside the trash or recycle carts. Please make sure everything you throw away fits in the cart.

If you have yard waste or bulk items to dispose of, the Union County Solid Waste Management Site is still open. For more information, visit <http://www.unioncountync.gov/departments/public-works/solid-waste-and-recycling>.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation during this time.

Contact Information

Town Council

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Mike Head, Council Member
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Jerry Morse, Council Member
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Important Numbers

UC Sewer and Water Services
704.296.4210

UC Public Schools
704.296.9898

UC Sheriff's Office (IT Division)
704.283.3791

Hemby Bridge Fire Department
704.882.2100

Baker's Fire Department
704.289.2741

Stallings Fire Department
704.821.7100

COVID-19 Resources and Assistance

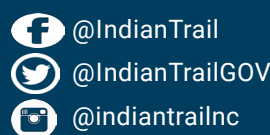
The COVID-19 pandemic has caused much fear, uncertainty, financial hardships, and health concerns for everyone. Throughout the County and the state, there are numerous resources available to assist those who need it, including:

- Union County COVID-19 Information Page (<http://www.unioncountync.gov/news/coronavirus-what-you-need-know>). This page provides regular updates, prevention information and a list of community resources.
- Union County Public Schools compiled a list of resources throughout the County: <https://www.ucps.k12.nc.us/Page/7330>.
- NC 2-1-1 (<https://www.nc211.org/coronavirus-covid-19>). North Carolina residents can call 2-1-1 or 888.892.1162, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for COVID-19 resources and assistance. You can also text COVIDNC to 898211 to sign up for updates.
- North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (<https://www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/public-health/covid19>).
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>).

The Town of Indian Trail also has a page on its website dedicated to small business assistance and employment resources at <http://indiantrail.org/540/Local-Business-Employment-Resources>.

TOWN OF INDIAN TRAIL

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704.821.5401
www.indiantrail.org



Sign up for
e-notifications at
www.indiantrail.org.