

April 23, 2020

Fellow Citizens of Lochbuie-

Together, we have lived through one of the most abnormal times in the recent history of our town, our state, and our country. But, with Governor Polis now lifting the "stay at home" order and transitioning to a policy of "safer at home," it appears that we are now on the path toward returning to something resembling normalcy.

This "new normal" will define life in our town and state for the next several months, and it will continue to include strict social distancing measures, such as an ongoing prohibition on gatherings of more than 10 people. However, the Governor's "safer at home" policy allows for some progress toward reopening the economy in a responsible and safe way, which includes extra health precautions like wearing face coverings in public places. For details on the Governor's transition from a "stay at home" order to a "safer at home" policy, please see: <u>https://covid19.colorado.gov/</u>.

In accordance with the Governor's recent actions, the Town of Lochbuie will begin the process of moving to its "new normal" beginning Monday, May 4, 2020. Amongst other things, the Town's "new normal" will include:

- Town hall will reopen to the public on May 4, 2020. Anyone visiting the town hall will be required to wear a cloth facemask or some other form of face covering and observe the six-foot social distancing guidelines.
- Town parks and playgrounds will also reopen on May 4, 2020. In accord with state policy, no gatherings of more than 10 people will be permitted. If compliance with that limit becomes an issue, the town may again close the playgrounds and parks. To that end, I ask that each of you PLEASE be respectful of your friends and neighbors by adhering to the reasonable limitations on gathering-size intended to protect the public health.
 - NOTE: With longer days upon us and heat of summer approaching, the Town believes that it is now appropriate to open our public parks to public use. That said, please keep in mind that the town does NOT sanitize playground equipment on a routine basis, and the decision whether to use or not use the playground equipment during this uncertain time is up to each individual family.
- All town celebratory events will likely be canceled in 2020, including the summer ice cream socials and the annual Fall Festival. We are saddened by that fact, but there are two reasons for this decision: (1) it is doubtful that any largescale events will be permitted for most of 2020 anyway, and (2) given the recent economic uncertainty, the Town needs to reallocate the resources from those events to more pressing needs.
 - NOTE: The Town has not yet canceled the "Lochbuie Oasis Nights" scheduled for this summer; however, those events hinge on the availability of the Brighton Oasis, and it seems highly unlikely that it will be able to accommodate any large gatherings this year.
 - NOTE 2: For now, the Town still intends to host the annual Spring Clean-up with strict adherence to social distancing guidelines. See the Town's website for more details.
- The Town Board will continue holding remote board meetings (via Zoom) in May 2020, with hopes to resume in-person, regular board meetings at town hall beginning with the June 2, 2020 meeting. Even when in-person meetings resume, board members and town staff will wear face-coverings and follow appropriate social distancing protocols.
 - NOTE: When in-person meetings resume, the Board will strongly encourage any public participation via livestreaming for the next several months. If you have an urgent need

TOWN OF LOCHBUIE TOWN OF LOCHBUIE TOWN OF LOCHBUIE, COLORADO 80603 PHONE: (303) 655-9308 FAX: (303) 655-9312

to address the Board, you are always free to email the town clerk, Linda Blackston, in advance of the meeting, and she will pass a copy of your email on to the Board. If you feel that your in-person attendance is absolutely necessary, we politely request that you advise the town clerk in advance of the meeting of your desire to attend. The town clerk's contact information is <u>lblackston@lochbuie.org</u> or (303) 990-5783.

A couple of other notes on recent town activities:

- The Town temporarily suspended water shut-offs and late fees on water bills for the March 2020 billing cycle (bills mailed on April 1). This policy will remain in place for the April and May 2020 billing cycles (bills mailed on May 1 and June 1, respectively). The Town will reassess the necessity and viability of that policy this summer.
- NOTE: Relatedly, in order to alleviate some of the economic burden currently experienced by many members of our small community, the Town Board recently approved a resolution to waive the "water base rate" for the April and May 2020 billing cycles (bills mailed on May 1 and June 1, respectively). This will result in a total savings of \$60 (\$30 each month) for every household in the community.
- There is currently a vacancy on the Town Board. If you are interested in applying for that position (term expires in November 2020), please contact the town clerk (<u>lblackston@lochbuie.org</u>) to submit your cover letter and resume for consideration before 5pm on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.
- The County Road 2 project has continued to progress forward through all of the recent turmoil, and the town's portion of the road widening is nearly complete. Over the next several weeks, you will see crews laying the final layer of asphalt and completing landscaping work, and United Power will soon be installing street lights near the roadway.
 - NOTE: The Town remains hopeful that the developer's portion of the road-widening project (from Homestead Street to 50th Street in Brighton) will begin later this year or early next. Understandably, however, recent events have significantly impacted planning for that portion of the project.
- The new round-a-bout (at CR2 and the frontage road) is also in progress, and the crews are making quick work of it. The new round-a-bout should be completed and fully operational around Labor Day 2020.

Finally, I want to pause to acknowledge all of the "essential workers" in our community that continued to go to work to provide vital services for each of us, day in and day out. Your dedication and sacrifice are not overlooked.

I also want to once again assure every Lochbuie citizen that the Town Board and town staff continue to take the COVID-19 situation seriously. Our top priority has been and remains the health and safety of every resident in this town. As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns about the town's response or the current plan to "reopen," please feel free to reach out to town hall or to me directly (jlofgren@lochbuie.org).

We will all move into this "new normal" together. As we do so, please stay happy, healthy, and "safer at home" to the fullest extent possible!

Town of Lochbuie Newsletter * May 2020*





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Fellow Lochbuians-

As you've already seen, there is a lengthy letter included with this newsletter that provides the most recent updates concerning the Town's response to COVID. To that end, I'll keep this month's Mayor's Corner short and sweet, and I'll simply ask everyone to read that letter fully.



The letter includes important details concerning the Town's plan to "reopen" on May 4. It also includes brief updates on a few other issues, including information about a temporary water rate reduction, an update on the status of the County Road 2 projects, and details about how to apply to fill a recent vacancy on the town board.

Please continue to stay happy, healthy, and safe as our town and state work toward "reopening" to our "new normal." And, as always, do not hesitate to contact me or any of the members of the Board with your questions, comments, or concerns.

Thank you, Jacob R. Lofgren, Mayor jlofgren@lochbuie.org

PUBLIC NOTICE

Trustee Vacancy

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Lochbuie is accepting letters indicating interest in filling a vacant Trustee position on the Board. Please include a resume with the letter. The Letter of Interest must be addressed to the Town of Lochbuie 703 County Road 37, Lochbuie, CO. 80603 Attn: Board of Trustees or emailed to Linda Blackston at <u>lblack-ston@lochbuie.org</u> and must be received no later than May 13, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. The vacancy will be filled until the next regular election in November 2020.

<u>May 2020 Shut Offs:</u> The Town of Lochbuie will **NOT** shut off water service on the scheduled shut off date of May 6, 2020 and will not assess late fees for the month of May. To make payments call 303-655-9308 or 877-215-5341. The Town is also urging citizens to use the online payment center on the Town's webpage at <u>https://www.lochbuie.org/</u> under the Pay My Bill tab. You can also drop your payment in the payment drop box at the Town Hall.

XPRESS BILL PAY

www.xpressbillpay.com

NOW! YOU CAN PAY YOUR BILLS 24/7 WITH OUR INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE (IVR) SYSTEM

If you do not have an online account or access to a computer, this is the payment solution for you, available 24/7! Simply call toll-free **877-215-5341**. Additionally, you may call the payment center (800-720-6847) and make payments over the phone with a live operator, if you'd prefer. If you have questions about IVR, call Xpress Bill Pay at 800-766-2350. Xpress Bill Pay is the online payment portal for the Town of Lochbuie.

Watering Schedule

Please be mindful of the watering schedule and make every effort to save water during the upcoming growing season. Watering is not allowed between the hours of 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM due to excessive heat and evaporation. *Watering schedule is a suggestion for maximum water conservation. It is not required or monitored by the Town of

Lochbuie.

SUN-	MON-	TUES-	WEDNES	THURS-	FRIDAY	SATUR-
DAY	DAY	DAY	DAY	DAY	NO WA-	DAY
EVEN	ODD	EVEN	ODD	EVEN	TERING	ODD

UNITED STATES CENSUS 2020 Be counted.

Every 10 years, the U.S. counts everyone who lives in the country, from newborn babies to the oldest residents.

The census is an opportunity to shape a better future for our communities and future generations. By participating in the 2020 census, you help provide an accurate count of the people who live in your community. An accurate count helps determine your community's needs for services and funds transportation, meal, and other services that help all older adults stay healthy and thrive.

You will receive your invitation to take the census in the mail in mid-March. You can complete the census online, by phone, by mail, or in person. The census form can be completed in Spanish or English online or by phone. Visit 2020census.gov for more information.

Keep making us better, together. Take the census.

LOCHBUIE MUNICIPAL COURT WILL RESUME MAY 8, 2020

In the best interest of the community and our resident's health the following changes are effective immediately:

* Lochbuie Municipal Court will resume scheduled court appearances on May 8, 2020 at 8:00 am subject to strictly enforced procedures deemed essential to preserve the health and safety of all persons.

* If you have a fever, flu-like symptoms, have been tested as positive for Covid-19, have been exposed to the Covid-19 virus or have medical conditions that place you in a "High Risk" category relative to Covid-19; DO Not Come To Court. Court staff can reached by emailing Kelly Montgomery at kmntgomery@lochbuie.org for assistance on procedures that will help you resolve your case without requiring you to appear in person. Your health and safety are important to the Court and we are taking necessary steps to return to regular Court functions in a way that preserve your health and safety as well as your legal rights

* Defendants should continue to check the Town website prior to their court date for any changes. Court staff can be reached by emailing Kelly Montgomery at kmntgomery@lochbuie.org

<u>SPRING CLEAN UP DAYS!!</u> <u>Mark your calendar</u>

DATE: TWO DAYS—MAY 15TH AND 16TH 2020 TIME: 8:00 AM—1:00 PM LOCATION: LOCHBUIE WASTEWATER PLANT 1794 WCR 39 IN LOCHBUIE A complete list of acceptable items can be found on our website.

