

For Immediate Release

Date: March 30, 2020

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TORNADO AFTERMATH – RIVERTOWN TRAIL CLOSURE, BUILDING PERMIT FEES WAIVED AND LIMB AND TREE REMOVAL

The Town of Newburgh is now under two state of emergencies. The first issued on March 25, 2020 was due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The second, issued on March 28, 2020 for the Saturday, March 28th tornado that came through Town. For the privacy of the homeowners that suffered damage, for crews to continue cleanup and to ensure social distancing, the Rivertown Trail has been closed until further notice. Along with the Rivertown Trail, all other Town owned parks have been closed. Those parks include: Veterans Monument, Lou Dennis Community Park, Old Lock and Dam Park, Indian Hill Overlook Park, Kiwanis Community Park and AMAX Fields.

For residents that suffered damage due to the March 28th tornado, all building permit fees will be waived. Permits must still be applied for, but the fees for the permits will be waived. A building permit must be issued before any work can start on the property. You can reach the Zoning Administrator, Tavi Wydicks, at 812-853-1720 extension 1 or email twydicks@newburgh-in.gov.

All of us, residents and Town, are dealing with debris on a large scale. The county landfill takes yard waste and Brewer Farms is taking branches and trees. Town residents have weekly trash pickup by Advanced Disposal and they will be taking tree limbs. The conditions for tree limb removal are as follows:

Tree limbs are not to be over 3" in diameter and bundled in lengths not to exceed four feet and not to exceed thirty pounds. You can use duct tape, rope or anything else to bundle the limbs. Anything larger than these requirements will not be picked up by Advanced Disposal.

Amanda Mosiman, Ag and Natural Resource Extension Educator, from Purdue Extension is able to do damage assessment to trees and has also provided the following information on trees and storm damage: https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/FNR/FNR-FAQ-12-W.pdf. You can reach Amanda at Bailey1@purdue.edu or by calling 812-897-6100.

The Town will continue to assess resources as we move forward to see what we are able to do to assist residents

As a reminder, the Town of Newburgh has also closed all Town offices to the public. Essential business may be handled by calling 812-853-1720 or using the Town website at www.newburgh-in.com.

- Town employees will be working and available to answer phone calls and emails.
- Emergency services will remain operational.
- Trash pick-up will continue as usual.
- Public meetings will be minimized and utilize teleconferencing when necessary.
- The Wastewater Treatment Facility is closed to the public. Please call ahead if you have essential business 812-853-6412.
- Utility bills may be paid by mail, on-line or placed in one of the two drop boxes. If you require a receipt please notate on your bill and one will be mailed to you. Anyone using cash should call ahead and make arrangements for drop off. Questions for utility bills can be directed to 812-853-7496 or email utilityoffice@newburgh-in.com.
 - Online payments https://municipalonlinepayments.com/newburghin
 - o Payment Drop Boxes are located on the Jennings Street side of Town Hall and on Water Street in the Town Hall parking lot next to the flag poles.

Please follow the CDC preventive measures to help control and continue the spread of the COVID-19 virus, which

includes limiting gatherings to no more than 50 people, keeping social distance from others, frequent hand washing and covering sneezes and coughs. For further information go to www.cdc.gov.

If you believe you have the virus, but are not severely ill, please contact one of the free 24-hour nurse triage lines:

- Deaconess 812-450-6555
- St. Vincent 812-485-2273

All media inquiries should be directed to Christy Powell at (812) 853-1720.