

Hello Coupeville,

Hope you are all well and taking care of yourselves and each other. If we have to stick close to home right now, at least we get to do it in beautiful Coupeville! Let's all stay calm, wash our hands, get outside for some fresh air, help a neighbor, send an encouraging word to someone who is struggling, contact your favorite nonprofit and ask how you can help...let's do everything we can to show we are Coupeville Strong and that Coupeville Cares!

Our businesses, school kids, and vulnerable residents are all feeling the strain of the ever-changing conditions. This is the time to come together as a community and support each other. Show our local businesses some love by ordering to-go meals, ordering online or showing faith in their future by buying gift certificates now.

The Coupeville School District is doing amazing things. They have partnered with the Coupeville Boys and Girls Club for child care, open to all at discounted rates and free for kids of first responders and health care workers. The School and the Club are sharing facilities and food. Speaking of food, Chef Andres is preparing sack lunches daily, available to any Coupeville student free of charge. They are available for pick up at the school this week and might be delivered to your driveway by a school bus next week! If you want to contribute to this amazing food program you can donate here:

<https://payments.efundsforschools.com/fundraising/districts/55475/campaigns/COUPEVILLE%20CONNECTED%20FOOD%20PROGRAM>

Some of our at-risk residents might be alone or afraid to ask for help. Check on your neighbor, let them know about Senior Services, the food bank, Island County Human Services and any other nonprofit or service organization that could help them out right now. There is so much we can do to support each other while still following the recommendations for social distancing.

The Town of Coupeville will continue to provide the best customer service and essential services we can. However, based on recommendations from federal, State and Island County Public Health officials, we have had to make a few hard decisions. The five that affect our residents the most are:

- We have closed Town Hall to the public until further notice. The staff will still be working; some in the office, some in the field, and some remotely. You can contact us all by email or phone. Our Planner and Building Official, Owen and Rene, will continue to process building permits but call to coordinate the application process. Our Utility Superintendent, Joe, and his crew will keep the water and wastewater plants running and contingency plans have been made in case the crew gets sick. You will see Kelly's Public Works crew out and about keeping the town safe and clean.
- We have cancelled all events in the Rec Hall through the end of April. We will reevaluate resuming rentals based on the best science available at that time. The Rec Hall is used so much, and while each group cleans up after themselves, disinfection is not done after each use. Also, most events are larger than the 'no more than 10' rule that has been recommended by the CDC.
- We are rescheduling or cancelling non-essential meetings and will be electronically holding those meetings that are necessary. You can check the website for instructions for Town Council, Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Commission meetings and agendas.  
[www.townofcoupeville.org](http://www.townofcoupeville.org)
- In an effort to reduce the risk of exposure to our staff, we are closing all public restrooms in the parks. For now, we will leave the restrooms in the municipal parking lot open.
- Annual Spring Clean Up Day postponed until later this spring or summer.

And finally, a big thank you to all of our first responders, our health care workers and our essential services staff. We are all safe at home while they work long hours, taking care of our health needs, taking care of our loved ones, protecting the safety of our homes and businesses, sending up to date information, and providing basic utility and public works services to our Town. We appreciate you. Stay well.

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The guidance on COVID 19 changes on a daily basis. For state wide news, I have listed one website. Your local news is also a good source of current information. For specific Island County and Coupeville updates, I have listed some great resources below.

Washington State COVID 19 Website – latest state policies and information

[https://coronavirus.wa.gov/?utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_name=&utm\\_source=govdelivery&utm\\_term=](https://coronavirus.wa.gov/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=)

Town of Coupeville – sign up for our Town email list to get immediate updates, email a request to:

[clerktreasurer@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:clerktreasurer@townofcoupeville.org)

Coupeville Chamber – sign up for the Chamber Newsletter (bottom right of the Chamber homepage) and receive the latest news about the status of our local businesses and how to support them.

<https://coupevillechamber.com/>

Island County Public Health – COVID 19 community guidance and updates

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/Health/Pages/COVID-19.aspx>

Whidbey Health Facebook Updates-symptoms, screening, testing, etc.

<https://www.facebook.com/WhidbeyHealth/>

Senior Services of Island County – what services are available, how to get help, or how to help.

<https://www.senior-resources.org/>

Island Transit – get rider alerts and up to date notices about schedules and routes

[www.islandtransit](http://www.islandtransit)



**We are Coupeville Strong!**