

March
2020



CITY OF

VINE GROVE

KENTUCKY

FOUNDED 1850

CITY HALL CLOSES

On March 17, 2020 Governor Andy Beshear Signed an Executive Order declaring a state of emergency in the Commonwealth, due to the outbreak of COVID-19 virus, a public health emergency.

In addition to closing a number of "Public Facing" businesses, he also ordered the closing of "in-person" government services. As of Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 5 p.m., City Hall has closed their doors to the public. The parks and playgrounds are also closed to the public. Police and Fire services will continue as normally as possible. Citizens are advised that if they call and ask to speak with an officer for a non-emergency, the citizen may be asked for a telephone number. The officer may then (depending on the circumstance) call that individual to gather more information. This is for the protection of the general public

City Hall and Public Works personnel are still working as much as possible to take care of City business. We will resume normal operations as ordered by the Governor.

Citizens are asked to pay their water bills either on-line (www.vinegrove.org), by phone (844-863-7359), or in the drop box located at 300 West Main street. We appreciate your cooperation. To open or close accounts, please call (270) 877-2422. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Please be aware that the City takes the needs of our citizens very seriously, and we are concerned for their well-being. We recognize that many of our citizens are suddenly without work, and dealing with their own pressures. If you need an extension or to set up a payment plan, please call us at (270) 877-2422, and we will do what we can to work with you.

APRIL IS CLEANUP MONTH

Each year, the City declares the month of April "Cleanup Month". This is the time of year when citizens are encouraged to clean up their yards, and spruce up their homes. Please remember Borders Disposal will be happy to pick up most items. However, there are a few guidelines.

Customers must be in good standing in order to receive pick-up services. Tree and shrub trimmings must be bound in four (4) - foot sections. Grass clippings or leaves must be bagged.

Refrigerators and air-conditioning units must have the Freon removed professionally and the items must be tagged before they may be collected. Please call in advance if you have large items, such as furniture or appliances to be disposed of.

Please be sure to place all trash/garbage into a garbage bag before setting it out for collection.

To contact Borders Disposal, call (270) 360-1700. You can pay your garbage bill on-line at <http://www.bordersdisposal.com>.



Important Phone Numbers

**Police and Fire
Emergency**
9-1-1

**Water/Sewer
After Hours
Emergency**
(270) 351-4477

**Police
Non-Emergency**
(270) 877-2252

Fire Department
(270) 877-5202

**Code
Enforcement**
(270) 877-8026
(270) 272-2003

City Hall
(270) 877-2422

Planning/Zoning
(270) 877-2422

**Building
Inspections**
(270) 272-2800

**Water & Sewer
Billing/Public
Works**
(270) 877-2713

**Mayor
Pam Ogden**
(270) 877-2422

City Council Members

Donna Betson

Kristofor King

Garry McCoy

Kathy Sisco

**Donna
Spangenberg**

Robert Woosley

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300 West Main Street
Vine Grove, KY 40175
www.vinegrove.org
Facebook page:
@VineGrovacityhall
Instagram:
City of Vine Grove

CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS

As we tidy our homes during Spring cleanup month, don't forget to check your smoke detectors to make sure they are working properly, and to ensure your battery still has a charge to it.

To check your smoke detector, locate the "test" button on the device and press it. Within just a few short seconds, it should produce a sound. If it doesn't, you may need a new battery.

If, after you have replaced the battery, the device still doesn't sound, you may need to try a different battery, or replace the smoke detector.

Smoke detectors are an inexpensive item that everyone should have in their homes. These devices can and do save thousands of lives every year.

ASSISTANCE OFFERED TO MILITARY VETERANS

Assistance is being offered to military veterans, preferably first responders, and administrative personnel living in the City of Vine Grove. Irvin Lyons Jr. has announced that he is willing to assist you in preparing your claims for the military benefits you may have earned. He will work with only those veterans who have never filed a claim for benefits.

To contact Mr. Lyons, please call (270) 304-6044.

VINE GROVE TO INSTALL NEW WATER METERS

The City of Vine Grove will begin to install new water meters throughout the entire city within the next few weeks. Many of the meters currently being used are more than ten (10) years old, and are not very accurate. In addition, workers are forced to read the meters manually, which is inefficient and time consuming. It currently takes four workers more than a week to read the meters for the entire city.

The new meters are digital, and much more accurate. The technology surrounding the new meters will allow one person to read the meters for the entire city in one day. This will free up our small Public Works Department for other tasks such as filling pot holes, mowing, and general repairs and maintenance.

Citizens should be aware that in some cases, workers will be required to dig in order to replace their meters. If that happens, workers will return to repair the damage, once the dirt has had time to settle.

Citizens should also be aware that the usage on their bills might change, as the new meters will be much more accurate than the older ones are. As meters age and wear out, the mechanism that measures usage slows, and eventually stops.

We thank you for your patience as we work our way through this process.

OPEN DOOR SERVES MEALS

The Open Door Community Kitchen is a help agency providing free hot meals to anyone who might need them, sponsored by volunteers and area churches. The meals are served every Saturday from 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at 306 High Street in Vine Grove just 2 blocks from City Hall.

During the Coronavirus pandemic, meals will be prepared as “to go” and delivered curb side. Workers will appreciate your patience as they work to deliver meals to you.

For more information, please contact Dan Paddack at (270) 945-4997.

FOOD PANTRY SERVES COMMUNITY

The Heartland Christian Center, located 124 Ditto Lane in Vine Grove will re-open their food pantry on Monday, March 30, 2020. They will be open on the first and third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

The food pantry is an agent for Feeding America.



CITY COUNCIL AND PLANNING AND ZONING MEET MONTHLY

City Council meets on the first Monday, of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the new Council Chambers, located in the former meeting room #1.

The Vine Grove Planning and Zoning Commission meets on the third Monday of every month at 6 p.m., also in the Council Chambers.

Exceptions for both bodies occur whenever a federal holiday falls on the regular meeting date. In that event, the meeting is held on the following Monday. ***Unfortunately, during the Coronavirus pandemic, citizens will not be admitted to the meetings in person, but may view the meetings on Facebook Live @vinegrovecityhall. Meetings will be reopened to the public once the pandemic is over. We regret the inconvenience.***

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH SENIOR GROUP SUSPENDS MEETINGS

The Vine Grove Senior group, commonly referred to as Yesterday's Youth will not be able to meet at their regularly scheduled meeting date due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Meetings will resume once the Vine Grove Community Center is reopened for business. We regret any inconvenience.

SAFE ROOM AVAILABLE TO ALL CITIZENS

Citizens who do not have access to a basement or any other protection during severe weather are encouraged to take advantage of the safe room, which is located at the Vine Grove Fire Department, at 513 Highland Avenue.

The Safe Room was constructed to accommodate approximately 500 people, on a short-term basis. It is not intended to be a long-term shelter, but it will give refuge during extreme weather events.

Citizens need not wait for someone to be on the scene to open the doors, as the doors may be unlocked remotely by Fire Chief Steve New. The moment he receives notification that severe weather is on the way, he can unlock the door remotely, thereby allowing citizens immediate access to safety.