



PRESS RELEASE

White County Government
Office of Public Safety – Emergency Management Division
1241 Helen Highway, Suite 100
Cleveland, Georgia 30528

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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Friday, May 15, 2020 @ 11 AM

White County begins reopening operations to public during COVID-19

In accordance with Georgia Governor Brian Kemp’s executive order of May 12, 2020, White County will return to normal operations at many of its facilities on May 18, 2020. Libraries and the Senior Center will remain closed. White County is providing COVID-19 information on its website, www.whitecounty.net, and also on the Emergency Management Facebook page.

White County Government will open access to facilities while following the Governor’s guidance beginning Monday, May 18, 2020. However, White County will also continue to provide services via phone, email, internet and mail as people are encouraged to practice social distancing and stay home when possible. Employees will be available by these methods on a daily basis during normal business hours.

People will not be allowed to enter the facilities if they are sick, have a fever or have had contact with a sick person. People who are coughing or are showing signs of being sick will be asked to leave the facility and conduct their business by phone, internet or mail. Locations such as the recreation department will take temperatures of everybody coming to the gymnasium, per the Governor’s resolution.

Below is a list of White County operations and their current operating status. Please understand that the COVID-19 pandemic is a very fluid situation that may call for a change of operations at any time.

Function/Department	Operation Status and Contact Information
Administration	Board of Commissioners / Lobby open to public beginning May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-2235
Animal Control	Open to the public beginning May 18, 2020 / Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-219-2689
Building Inspections and Permits	Lobby open to public beginning May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-6496 for information about permits and inspections
Code Enforcement	Call 706-865-6496
Clerk of Court	Office is open / Call 706-865-2613 for appointment. Follow social distancing guidelines and Enotah Judicial Circuit orders.
Coroner	Call 706-200-6968
District Attorney	Call 706-865-3306 Follow social distancing guidelines and Enotah Judicial Circuit orders.
Elections	June 9 is local, state and presidential primary elections / Early Voting begins May 18 at the Mauney Building, 1241 Helen Highway / Follow social distancing and state guidelines. / Call 706-865-7812
Environmental Health	Lobby open to public on May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-348-7698 for septic permits and inspections
Extension Office	Office will open to public on May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. 4-H activities remain closed.
Fire Department/EMS	Access is limited at Fire Stations / Call 706-865-9500
GIS/Mapping	Lobby open to public on May 18, 2020 Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-3911
Health Department	Open for school shots, labs, TB skin test with appointments advised. Call 706-865-2191. Health Department can schedule COVID 19 testing for Hall, Franklin, Habersham or Towns Counties. NO COVID 19 testing is happening in Health Departments.
Libraries	Closed to the public / Both branches accepting return of books and offering curbside pickup. / Call 706-865-5572.

Magistrate Court	Operating under the Judicial Emergency Order in Enotah Judicial Circuit. / Call 706-865-6636
Parks and Recreation	Parks are open / fitness center and weight room will be open by appointment only beginning May 18. People must follow social distancing guidelines and Governor's Executive Order requirements. / Call 706-865-5275. Pavilions will remain closed.
Planning/Zoning	Lobby open to public beginning May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-6768 for information.
Probate Court	Normal office operations beginning May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines and Enotah Judicial Circuit orders. All civil proceedings and criminal hearings and arraignments will be scheduled by the court on a case by case basis. Call 706.865.4141.
Public Safety/EMA	Lobby open to public beginning May 18, 2020 Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-9500
Public Works/Roads	Lobby closed to public / Call 706-367-5288 for driveway permits and to report road issues.
Sr. Center	Closed to public / Meals still being delivered to seniors / Call 706-865-4097
Sheriff's office	Limited access to public / Call 706-865-5177
Tax Commissioner	Lobby open to public beginning May 18, 2020 Follow social distancing guidelines. / Drive through services available 8-4:30 M-F and on-line services also available and recommended / Call 706-865-2225
Trash/Solid Waste	Hulsey Road Convenience Center open Monday, Wednesday 9-5 and Saturday 8-4 / Call 706-865-7655 Transfer Station on Industrial Way open Monday-Saturday from 8-5 / Call 706-865-3716
Water Authority	Lobby open to the public beginning May 18, 2020. Follow social distancing guidelines. Only one customer will be allowed in the lobby at a time. / Call 706-865-0788
White County Schools	Closed through end of school year / on-line learning continues / providing weekday meals at Middle School from 11:30-12:30 / also delivering meals per schedule on website www.white.k12.ga.us
Welcome Center	Closed to public / Call 706-878-3842
City of Cleveland	City Hall lobby open to public as of May 14, 2020 Follow social distancing guidelines. / Call 706-865-2017 / E-mail generalinfo@cityofcleveland.org
City of Helen	City Hall lobby closed to public / Call 706-878-2733 / E-mail info@cityofhelen.org

For more information concerning this press release contact the White County Emergency Management Agency at 706-865-9500.

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