

DEVON COMMUNITY NEWS

Council communicates COVID-19 impact to residents

As we all know, Governor Carney has proclaimed a “stay at home” state of emergency in the state of Delaware.

This is a new landscape for all of us. Two council members have reached out to the Delaware Dept. of Public Health and been informed that neither the Devon nor the Division of Public Health can share individual health information “due to restrictions in HIPPA and state privacy laws.”

If you are expecting a food/medicine delivery, ask the order taker to instruct the delivery person to leave the order with the doorman.

Update your “buddy” information with the Devon office and check in with your neighbors to see if you can help with necessary shopping.

What does this declaration mean to Devon residents?

1. **It means that each of us should continue to remain in our units, continue to “socially distance” (6 ft), and keep outside activities to “essential activities and essential travel,” which are defined by the Delaware Dept of Public Health as:**
 - a. Getting medical care and medical supplies
 - b. Buying food, household and pet supplies
 - c. Caring for family members, friends or pets in other households
 - d. Doing laundry or dry cleaning
 - e. Exercising outdoors (while maintaining social distance)
 - f. Going to work if your place of work is deemed “essential” by the state.
2. **If you believe you have had direct exposure to someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 or returned from another country or, in some cases, from another state, you are expected to self-quarantine for 14 days, which means:**
 - a. You must stay in your residence, unless you require medical care. You may not go to public areas or use public transportation (including cabs and ride-shares). You should separate from other people in your unit as much as possible and avoid sharing personal items.
 - b. Loved ones or friends should do your shopping for you.
 - c. Disinfect commonly used items and surfaces.
 - d. Monitor your health and call your doctor if symptoms develop.
3. **If you have contracted Covid-19, after consultation with your physician, you must self-isolate.**
 - a. Stay separate from other people in your unit.
 - b. Do not share dishes, towels, bedding.
 - c. Disinfect commonly used items.
 - d. Wear a face mask, if possible, or use a scarf or other garment around others or in a car if traveling for a medical appointment.

Note: violating the State of Delaware “stay at home” order may result in a \$500 fine or up to 6 months in jail, per violation.

Please stay current with the news beyond major networks by checking thedevonat2401.com, [Documents](#) and with the Delaware Dept. of Health at de.gov/coronavirus and Delaware Dept. of Health and Social Services at dhss.delaware/dhss. The Delaware dedicated Coronavirus hotline is 1-866-408-1899 in Smyrna.

Thank you!

These unprecedented times call for extraordinary measures, and the Devon community has risen to the challenge.

Your diligence and your support for each other and for all the people who continue to run this building is greatly appreciated.

A special thanks to **Matt Johnson** and **Representative Gerald Brady** for getting the hand sanitizer station to the Devon. This item has been impossible to procure!

Also, Kathleen would like to thank residents for their caring, thoughtful notes being sent to her via condo fee payments.

Essential repair list

In an effort to minimize Gary and Robert's visits to units, please see the list of essential maintenance repairs below:

Clogs and leaks

- Anything that could potentially impact or damage another unit, such as clogs and leaks

Some electrical issues

- blown breaker, light completely out (i.e. no kitchen or bathroom light)

Smell of gas

Please call 302-658-5366 if you have a question about a repair. We greatly appreciate your cooperation.

COVID-19 challenges

Take steps to be a thoughtful neighbor

Apartment living has its unique challenges during this crisis. Overcoming those challenges requires patience as we all adjust to these new circumstances.

Noisy neighbors?

While many of us are working from home and/or sheltering in place, let's be mindful of the noise we can generate from our apartments. Be courteous and keep the volume on your television and music devices at a reasonable level.

Too close for comfort?

Following social distancing guidelines is important. Elevator etiquette may require us to wait for the next one, or possibly taking the steps, which would have added health benefits. Also, in the mailroom, be thoughtful and keep a safe distance.

Protect our staff by keeping your distance when picking up packages, requesting assistance, or waiting for a ride.

Feeling isolated?

Sandy Idstein's book club has invited residents to join them each day at 6:00 PM, gathering on our balconies or by our opening windows, to show appreciation health care workers, first responders, and scientists. You can also use this time to greet your neighbors.

Take advantage of your balcony. It provides a safe refuge where you can enjoy the outdoors on sunny Spring days.

Rediscover our neighborhood. It offers wonderful parks, open spaces, and gardens to enjoy. Walking the streets of The Highlands, Wawaset, Trolley Square, and/or Forty Acres can help relieve the stress of isolation.

Staying connected?

Now, more than ever, we need to check in with our neighbors to ensure their well-being and to provide assistance when possible. Small gestures of kindness have greater meaning during these times.

The Devon council recommends that you have a resident "buddy" for those purposes and provide that person's name and contact information to the office.

Sharing responsibility

As Devon residents, our individual actions affect the entire community. Follow the state and national guidelines. More importantly, be kind, civil, and patient with your neighbors and our staff. Take care and stay safe.

Devon Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9AM-Noon & 1PM-3PM
 If you have good news, a concern, or a complaint, please contact:
 IPS Property Manager: Dino at 302-994-3907/dinoperonti@ipsde.com
 Devon Office: Kathleen at 302-658-5366/thedevon@comcast.net.