



Newsletter - April 10, 2020

Mayor Justin Hanson



***You may contact your
Alderman/Alderwoman by
clicking on the email links below.***

District 1 Vice Mayor Johnetta Yarbrough
Alderwoman Minnie Bommer

1122jwyatt@gmail.com
alderwomandist1@gmail.com

District 2 Alderman Jeff Morris
Alderman Keith Phelps

aldermanjeffmorris@gmail.com
kphelps@jamiesonandfisher.com

District 3 Alderman C.H. Sullivan
Alderman Danny Wallace

aldermanchsullivan@gmail.com
aldermanwallace@gmail.com



1st Tuesdays - Public Works Committee
Jeff Morris - Chairman, Minnie Bommer, Danny Wallace

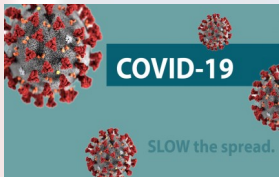
2nd Tuesdays - General Welfare and Public Relations Committee
Minnie Bommer - Chairwoman, Keith Phelps, C.H. Sullivan

3rd Tuesdays - Finance and Administration Committee
C.H. Sullivan - Chairman, All Aldermen/Alderwomen attend

4th Tuesdays - Public Safety Committee
Keith Phelps - Chairman, C.H. Sullivan, Johnetta Yarbrough

All regularly scheduled committee meetings are at 4:00 pm in the Lower Level Conference Room at Covington City Hall at 200 W. Washington St. All Board of Mayor and Aldermen meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings of each month at 5:30 pm in the Board Room on the 2nd floor at Covington City Hall. ALL are open to the public. Official meeting minutes and agendas can be found by visiting www.covingtontn.com.

Tipton County Health Department has a drive-thru COVID-19 testing site on Mueller Brass Road in Covington. The National Guard has been deployed to assist with testing and supplies. The testing site will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Although anyone can drive-thru, not everyone will be tested. Each person will be asked a series of questions and a determination will be made on whether the individual is tested or not.



In order to further protect our employees and our community, effective immediately, all City buildings will be closed to the public until **April 30th**. Also keep in mind the following:

- All payments (utility bills, citations, fire fees, etc.) will be accepted through our two drive-through lanes, not in the lobby at City Hall.
- Many payments can be made via our website at www.covingtontn.com or by calling 844-876-2911.
- Business that requires face-to-face visits will be done by appointment only. To make an appointment, please call 901-476-9613.
- Job applications and many other forms can be obtained from our website at www.covingtontn.com

We want you to know that we are still here to serve you! Avoid crowded spaces, wash your hands, and if you are not feeling well, please stay home. We expect the number of confirmed cases to rise, but by putting these things in place, hopefully we can slow the spread.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Baptist Hospital - Tipton
Tipton County Health Department
Tennessee Department of Health

901-476-2621
901-476-0235
<https://www.tn.gov/health.html>

Essential Businesses & Services

For additional information regarding each category, please visit tn.gov/COVID-19



Health Care & Public Health Operations



Human Services Operations



Essential Infrastructure Operations



Essential Government Functions



Food & Medicine Stores



Food & Beverage Production & Agriculture



Charitable Organizations & Social Services



Religious & Ceremonial Functions



Media



Gas Stations & Transportation Businesses



Financial Institutions & Insurance Entities



Hardware & Supply Stores



Critical Trades



Mail, Post, Shipping, Logistics, Delivery & Pick-up Services



Educational Institutions



Laundry Services



Restaurants for Off-Premises Consumption



Supplies to Work from Home



Home-based Care & Services



Residential Facilities & Shelters



Professional Services



Critical Manufacturing, Distribution & Supply Chain



Hotels & Motels



Funeral Services



Outdoor Recreation Areas Following CDC Guidelines

For those businesses that remain open as permitted by Executive Order 22, employers should take every step to equip employees to work from home and follow Health and CDC guidelines to the greatest extent possible.

BUSINESSES CAN DONATE NEW, UNUSED PPE

PPE DONATIONS

INFORMATION ON ACCEPTED SUPPLIES AND
DONATION LOCATIONS IS ONLINE



www.tn.gov/tema/news

#TNStayHome

HO
ME

I'm challenging you to

complete the

2020 Census

today.

#shapeyourfuture



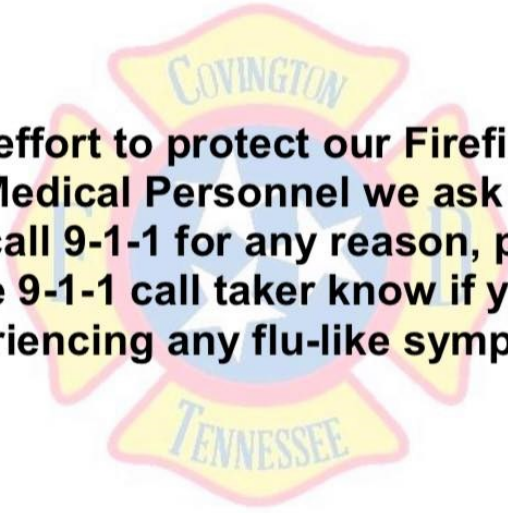
COVINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

101 Tennessee Avenue - Covington, TN 38019 - 901-476-2578



[Visit us on our Facebook page](#)

In an effort to protect our Firefighters and Medical Personnel we ask that if you call 9-1-1 for any reason, please let the 9-1-1 call taker know if you are experiencing any flu-like symptoms.



Click below to learn more!

Be a Guardian of Your Community.

BE A COVINGTON VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

www.VolunteerFireTN.org

1-844-Vol-Tenn (1-844-865-8366)

In an effort to keep our employees safe, please do not drop fire fees off at the Covington Fire Department. Please use the following options:

By Mail: 101 Tennessee Ave., Covington, TN 38019

Online: Covingtontn.com

Or visit the drive-thru at City Hall, 200 W. Washington Ave.



COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



[Visit us on our Facebook page](#)

SOCIAL DISTANCING

What does it mean?

Social distancing is the practice of reducing close contact between people to slow the spread of infections or diseases.

Social distancing measures include limiting large groups of people coming together, closing buildings and canceling events.

AVOID

- Group gatherings
- Sleepovers
- Playdates
- Concerts
- Theater outings
- Traveling
- Athletic events
- Crowded retail stores
- Malls
- Workouts in gyms
- Church Services
- Visitors in your house
- Non-essential workers in your house
- Mass transit systems

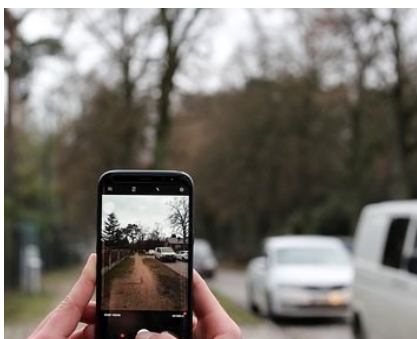
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

- Visit a local restaurant to get take out
- Visit grocery store
- Pick up medications
- Play tennis in a park

Keep at least 6' - 8' between yourself and others

SAFE TO DO

- Take a walk
- Go for a hike
- Yard work
- Play in your yard
- Clean out a closet
- Read a good book
- Listen to music
- Cook a meal
- Family game night
- Go for a drive
- Stream a favorite show
- Call or email a friend or elderly neighbor to check in
- Group video chats



if you
SEE
something
SAY
something™

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY to Covington Police

Call 901-475-1261 or 901-475-4300

In an emergency dial 9-1-1



Tipton County Public Works has suspended recycling until further notice. This affects the City of Covington's recycling drop-off center on South College at West Pleasant (in the parking lot adjacent to the water plant). The recycling dumpsters have been temporarily removed as a precaution during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WE MISS YOU

DUE TO COVID-19 COMMUNITY THEATERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES EVERYWHERE HAVE BEEN PUT ON HOLD. WHILE IT SEEMS AS THO THE WORLD HAS STOPPED, REST ASSURED THAT WE ARE STILL HERE! EVERYONE IS EAGER TO GET BACK TO WORK AT THE RUFFIN AND WITH YOUR SUPPORT, OUR COMEBACK WILL BE BETTER THAN EVER! VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR MESSAGE US TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN BECOME A PATRON TODAY! WE SO LOOK FORWARD TO FILLING OUR SEATS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL THEATER!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2020

CONTACT:

Chelsei Granderson

901-476-0235

Chelsei.Granderson@tn.gov

TIPTON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OPENS COVID-19 ASSESSMENT SITE(S)

Covington, Tenn. – The Tipton County Health Department has established COVID-19 assessment sites for county residents meeting pre-screening and pre-registration requirements.

Tipton County's COVID-19 assessment sites are:

Tipton County Health Department
4700 Mueller Brass Rd, Covington

Testing Hours: 9:00-3:00 p.m. Monday-Friday

Tipton County residents who have concerns they may have symptoms of COVID-19 can contact their local health department for consultation, and for pre-screening and pre-registration procedures for potential assessment.

Tipton County residents can call 901-476-0235 between 8:00-4:30, Monday- Friday for pre-screening and pre-registration.

Tipton County Health Department staff members will conduct pre-screenings and pre-registrations for individuals with symptoms by phone, then direct those identified for assessment to a site where they will undergo nasal swab collection for testing for COVID-19. Test results may be available within 72 hours, depending on the volume of tests that the testing lab receives.

Tipton County Health Department staff members cannot perform pre-screenings and pre-registrations at assessment sites, and those who are ill should first contact their primary care providers.

Additional information about Tennessee's assessment sites is available for each county on the Tennessee Department of Health website at www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov/remote-assessment-sites.html.

-more-

Most people, particularly those with mild or no symptoms, do not need assessment for COVID-19.

Those in high-risk categories, including contacts of confirmed cases; people in occupations with exposure to large numbers of contacts; health care workers; nursing home residents; severely immunocompromised patients; critically ill patients; pregnant women and people who have COVID-19 symptoms, are prioritized for testing.

There are many things Tipton County residents can do to reduce the impact of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water (or alcohol-based hand rub) for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing;
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands;
- Stay home when you are sick;
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with your arm or a tissue;
- Clean and disinfect objects (e.g., cell phone, computer) and high touch surfaces regularly; and,
- Practice social/physical distancing from others, be safer at home.

All Tennesseans, especially those in high-risk populations, should take the following actions to reduce the possibility of getting sick with COVID-19:

- Keep space (at least 6') between yourself and others;
- Limit your time in public to essential needs only, such as grocery trips, medical care, pharmacy needs or emergencies;
- When you are in public, avoid crowds as much as possible, and keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often;
- Avoid non-essential travel, especially on airlines and cruise ships; and,
- Stay home as much as possible to reduce your risk of being exposed.

TDH has additional information available at www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov.html.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has updated information and guidance available online at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

###

Visit the Tennessee Department of Health online at www.tn.gov/health.



Dyersburg State Announces \$2000 Registration Blitz Giveaway for Students

Dyersburg, Tennessee – Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) will award \$100 to 20 students in a random drawing during its April Registration Blitz. To qualify for the award, 1,400 students must register for May, summer or fall classes by April 30.

Students are encouraged to make an appointment to meet with their advisor online before registering. Online appointments can be made through the Navigate app, which can be downloaded at <https://dscn.navigate.eab.com>. An online appointment can also be made by visiting www.dscn.edu, clicking on “Current Students,” then “Make an Appointment.” Current spring semester students who are not working toward a degree do not need to meet with an advisor.

The DSCC website, www.dscn.edu/register, provides information on how to register, along with registration requirements. The website also includes information regarding financial aid and majors available such as Computer Information Technology, Criminal Justice, Early Childhood Education, AEMT, EMT and EMT-Paramedic, Engineering Systems Technology, Health Information Management, Nursing, Paramedic to RN, and more. Also available are transfer programs such as Teaching K-6, Business Administration, Chemistry, Pre-Physical Therapy and Pre-Occupational Therapy. More majors and certificate programs can be found online at www.dscn.edu/programs-of-study.

Current and potential students may seek assistance with advising and registration by calling the Karlgaard One Stop in Dyersburg at 731-286-3350 or emailing mjones@dscn.edu; the Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County One Stop at 901-475-3100 or emailing ross@dscn.edu; or the Gibson County Center One Stop in Trenton at 731-855-1419 or emailing penn@dscn.edu.

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 28, 2020

Contact: Amy Finch, Director of Public Information, 731-286-3347

Dyersburg State Community College



Dyersburg State to Continue Classes Online Through May 8

Dyersburg, Tennessee - Out of concern for its students, faculty and staff, Dyersburg State Community College (DSCC) has announced that all classes will continue to be delivered in an online format through May 9 amid COVID-19 concerns.

All three locations in Dyersburg, Covington and Trenton will be closed to students and the general public until further notice. All faculty and staff will be working from home through April 5. DSCC phone extensions will be forwarded to the appropriate faculty and staff. A limited amount of faculty and staff will be working on-site after April 5 with the majority working remotely from home.

Students will continue to meet with their classes through eLearn and the Zoom teleconferencing app during their normal scheduled class times. More information regarding Zoom and how to access classes can be found at www.dsc.edu/coronavirus on the student link. Students can also utilize Zoom for virtual tutoring assistance from the Academic Success Center and Student Support Services. Help Desk assistance can still be found online at www.dsc.edu/helpdesk or by calling 731-288-7780 (Dyersburg campus), 901-475-3177 (Jimmy Naifeh Center at Tipton County) or 731-222-5180 (Gibson County Center). Students can also email the Help Desk at helpdesk@dsc.edu.

Advising and registration for May session and summer and fall semesters will begin March 30. Students will be able to make an online appointment through the DSCC website at www.dsc.edu by clicking on the Future or Current Student tabs, then the Make an Appointment link. Current students may also make an appointment through their Navigate app. To download the Navigate app, students should visit www.dsc.edu/navigate.

The College continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely and is taking these extra precautions to keep the college community safe and healthy. Although there have been no positive COVID-19 cases reported in the DSCC college community, a professional service was used to comprehensively disinfect all buildings.

A list of updated postponements and cancelations can be found at www.dsc.edu/coronavirus on the news and event updates link. General questions can be directed to the College at 731-286-3200.



DIGITAL AGRONOMY

Location: Covington Campus | 1600 Hwy 51 S
Covington, TN 38019

NEW PROGRAM COMING FALL 2020



**Committed to
Training
Excellence for
Over 50 Years**

**Comprehensive
Training Program**

**Call us at
(901) 475-2526
to get your
name put on
the interest list**

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: The Digital Agronomy program will prepare individuals for the future of Ag technology. Students will gain a foundation in both conventional and regenerative agricultural practices, with a focus on 21st century technology. Instructional methods include classroom lecture, videos, audio and video conferencing, virtual and live work projects on actual farms.

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

- Plant & Soil Science
- GIS Mapping
- Field Scouting
- Landscaping & Turf Management
- Drone Piloting
- Greenhouse & Nursery Management

COMPLETION AWARDS

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Digital Agronomy Helper | CERTIFICATE (432 hrs) |
| • Digital Agronomy Junior Assist. | CERTIFICATE (864 hrs) |
| • FAA Drone Pilot License | CERTIFICATE (864 hrs) |
| • Digital Agronomy Assistant | DIPLOMA (1296 hrs) |



**TENNESSEE COLLEGE
OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY**
COVINGTON

www.tcatcovington.edu

901-475-2526

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Covington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex and disability. See <https://www.tcatcovington.edu/about/non-discrimination-statement>.

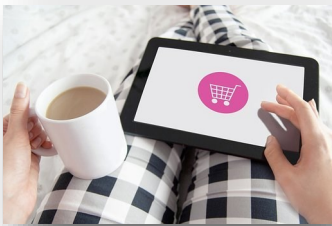


Paycheck Protection Program

Eligible small businesses (including sole proprietorships, independent contractors and self-employed persons) can now apply for the new Paycheck Protection Program expanded 7(a) emergency loan program.

This loan (issued and managed by local lenders) is designed to provide a direct incentive for small businesses to keep their workers on the payroll. [Read More.](#)

How to Support Small Businesses During COVID -19



Shop Online - Even though our merchants are not open to shoppers inside their stores, many are giving the option to purchase online. Call the store to see what your options are!

Purchase a Gift Card - Mother's Day, birthdays, a "happy" for an elderly family member... why not purchase a gift card as a present to be used when stores re-open? Our merchants need sales right now and a gift card is a way to support them now with a gift that can be used later!



Like and Share - One of the best ways to show your support without spending a dime is to Like and Share small business posts on social media. This greatly increases their posts' reach!

Have it Delivered - Do you see something you like on a small business website or social media page? Ask the merchant about delivery options or curbside pick up. Many stores are offering free delivery during this time!



Healthy Ways to Manage Stress

- Listen to relaxing music, draw or paint.
- Create routines with exercise.
- Watch your favorite comedy show or movie.
- Read the book you've been putting off, download educational podcasts, catch up on recorded shows on your DVR or pull out board games for family fun.
- Reconnect with yourself and loved ones.
- Spend time with people who matter most in your life — and that includes you!



PROFESSIONAL CARE SERVICES

of West TN, Inc.

Professional Care Services (PCS) has provided outpatient mental health and substance abuse services for almost 50 years. It is during times of crisis that we see how much those services are truly needed. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are sure to see a rise in anxiety, depression, abuse, and suicides. These mental health needs stem from the fear of the unknown, decreased ability to socialize with friends and family, loss of jobs and loved ones, and so on. It is common to experience these types of mental health needs, even mildly.

Even though these times are frightening and uncertain, we want you to understand that PCS services are still available, and we are accepting new clients. Although services may look a bit different, we are here for you. To best protect our clients and staff, we have moved to remote services. This means we will be utilizing telehealth technology for intakes and appointments. Telehealth is common. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, PCS utilized telehealth options for certain medication management appointments and often during our intake process. The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly increased the utilization of telehealth, but it is not a new concept.

If you are currently experiencing symptoms of anxiety, depression, or if you need someone to help you understand the emotions and feelings you are having, contact our Call Center at 1.844.727.2778, Monday-Thursday from 12:30-2:30pm

Our Call Center will gather information and documents via Doxy.me and then provide you with a timeframe in which a therapist will contact you for an intake. This intake will take place from the safety and comfort of your home via Doxy.me.

If you have questions, concerns, or would like to begin the intake process, contact the Call Center at 1.844.727.2778. As always, PCS is thankful for the opportunity to serve you. Rest assured that mental health and substance abuse services are still available in your community.



Professional Care Services (PCS) has provided outpatient mental health and substance abuse services for almost 50 years. It is during times of crisis that we see how much those services are truly needed. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are sure to see a rise in anxiety, depression, abuse, and suicides. These mental health needs stem from the fear of the unknown, decreased ability to socialize with friends and family, loss of jobs and loved ones, and so on. It is common to experience these types of mental health needs, even mildly.

Even though these times are frightening and uncertain, we want you to understand that PCS services are still available, and we are accepting new clients. Although services may look a bit different, we are here for you. To best protect our clients and staff, we have moved to remote services. This means we will be utilizing telehealth technology for intakes and appointments. Telehealth is common. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, PCS utilized telehealth options for certain medication management appointments and often during our intake process. The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly increased the utilization of telehealth, but it is not a new method.

Same Day Access (Intakes for New Patients)

If you are not currently a client of PCS and are currently experiencing symptoms of anxiety, depression, or if you need someone to help you understand the emotions and feelings you are having, contact our Call Center, Monday-Thursday from 12:30-2:30pm. Our Call Center will gather information and documents via Doxy.me and then provide you with a timeframe in which a therapist will contact you for an intake. This intake will take place from the safety and comfort of your home via Doxy.me.

Information for current clients:

Medication Management, Therapy, and Care Coordination Appointments

These appointments will be conducted in the same manner as a typical, in-person visit. Your provider/therapist/care coordinator will still speak with you regarding your mental health. Treatment plans, assessments, etc. may be updated via telehealth and providers can even make changes to your medications, if needed. In short, the content of your visit will be the same. The only difference? Clients will see the provider on a screen or speak with them on the phone instead of coming to the office.

Injection Services

PCS Nurses will continue to provide injections to clients who have an injection due. All injection appointments will be within a two-hour timeframe one day each week. If you are unsure of when your injection appointment is, contact the Call Center.

Pharmacy Services

Our on-site pharmacies will remain open however to reduce foot-traffic in our clinics, we will be delivering medications. The only exception will be for patients receiving controlled medications. Those individuals will need to pick up their medications from the clinic. Once you have arrived at the clinic, call the office and we will gladly bring your items to your vehicle.

For questions, concerns, or to start the intake process contact our Call Center at 1.844.727.2778. As always, PCS is thankful for the opportunity to serve you. Rest assured that mental health and substance abuse services are still available in your community.