

# SHENANDOAH COUNTY



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Shenandoah County Declares Local Emergency

Woodstock, VA – In response to expanding number of cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) nationwide and within the Commonwealth of Virginia, Shenandoah County has declared a local emergency. The declaration provides enhanced access to resources of the Commonwealth if or when those are needed.

“We see this as proactive step. There is a lot of uncertainty with this virus and its potential impacts on Shenandoah County both short and long term,” said Board of Supervisors Chairman Richard “Dick” Neese.

“Shenandoah County and its staff are here to provide public service. We are taking measures to protect our human assets while continuing a focus on providing services to our citizens. Depending upon the severity of this pandemic those services may be reduced or delayed. We ask for patience as we, like everyone else, adapt to a new normal,” said County Administrator Evan Vass.

The County suggests when possible to utilize online resources, over the phone or even 24/7 drop boxes for certain transactions with the county. It is recognized this is not possible in all scenarios; particularly public safety.

The County also asks residents and visitors to take commonsense precautions such a regular handwashing, avoiding large gatherings and avoiding work and social settings if you are sick or believe to have been in contact with someone who is sick.

Shenandoah County will continue to work with state and regional partners as this virus and its impact on the community evolves.

The County will ratify the emergency declaration in the form of a resolution at the March 24, 2020 Board of Supervisors meeting.

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