



## ***NEWS RELEASE***

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### **For Immediate Release**

**Date:** March 13, 2020  
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To help ensure the safety and economic well being of the community, the City of Wood Village declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 Virus. While there are no known cases within the City, the Mayor and elected official understand that this virus will impact all of us in some way. The emergency declaration specifically authorizes suspending water/sewer shut offs for non-payment, as well as suspending late fees. While payments on utility bills are encouraged, City officials understand that not everyone will be able to pay their bill on time. Residents and businesses will still receive a water and sewer bill, but there will be no late fees or shut-offs in March.

The declaration also suspends non-essential meetings and events. This unfortunately means that the City's 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Easter Egg Hunt will be cancelled this year. Elected leaders and staff are working on options to distribute Easter Eggs to area children, and more information on that will be released at a later time. Lastly, the Mayor and Council want to reassure residents and businesses that City Hall will remain open with all services available. We encourage people to call, email, or use the website to obtain services when possible. Mayor Harden stated "I applaud the response of our Governor and our County Commissioners. In my mind they are taking the appropriate level of precaution when they call for the cancellation of events where a large number of persons are coming in close contact with one another. People's lives could be in the balance, so it is important that we err on the side of caution as well." The City's website will be updated with the latest information on the COVID-19 virus, and the health and wellness of the community is always our top priority.

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