

# City of Elkader

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Mayor Josh R. Pope



Daryl Koehn, Mayor Pro tem  
Peggy Lane, Bob Hendrickson,  
Ed Josten, Randy Henning

## **PROCLAMATION #2020-03** **CITY OF ELKADER, IOWA EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 poses a serious threat to the public health and safety of the City of Elkader, Iowa, as outlined by the Center for Disease Control (“CDC”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Iowa Department of Public Health (“IDPH”) has now determined that community spread of COVID-19 has occurred in the State of Iowa; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Kim Reynolds has issued a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency outlining specific steps and requirements to combat the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 372.14(2) of the Code of Iowa grants the Mayor powers to declare an emergency and govern through proclamation to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Elkader.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Josh R. Pope, Mayor of the City of Elkader, Iowa, do hereby proclaim the following:

1. That a state of emergency or public danger exists within the City of Elkader because of the threat of the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
2. That based upon the advice of the CDC and other public health agencies, and pursuant to the State of Public Health Disaster Emergency issued by Governor Kim Reynolds, I hereby declare that all City buildings will be closed to public beginning Monday, March 23, 2020. Contact information for the departments during closure is as follows:
  - a. The Elkader Public Library is open or closed at the discretion of the Library Board and is currently closed, with staff working, and will provide “take out” bags of books. They can be contacted at (563) 245-1446. Please visit their website or Facebook page for updates or more information. <https://www.elkader.lib.ia.us>
  - b. The Elkader City Hall is closed with staff working. They can be contacted at (563) 245-2098.
  - c. The Elkader Police Department, located at City Hall, is closed but the Police Department can be contacted at (563) 245-3110 for non-emergency calls or 911 for emergency calls. The Department is working and ready to serve the residents in a way that protects our employees. This means that they will be abiding by the social distancing recommendations, and will wear personal protective equipment if personal interaction is necessary.
  - d. Board and Commission Meetings: All non-essential City board and commission meetings have been cancelled. It is my recommendation that essential meetings be held via conference call or video chat but if a meeting must be held in person, social distancing of at least six feet will be followed.

- e. Council meetings: The City Council is currently meeting in person, adhering to the social distancing recommendations and limiting the number of people in the room to 10 (ten). This will be re-evaluated as the pandemic progresses and the Council may develop a video conference meeting method.
  - f. City Parks: The campground is currently not scheduled to open April 1<sup>st</sup> as it usually does but this will be re-evaluated. Playgrounds are closed. Ballfields are closed. City Parks remain open but residents should comply with the social distancing recommendations and shall comply with the recommendation to have 10 or fewer people at a gathering.
  - g. At this time, the operations of the Street Department, Water Department, Sewer Department, and Fire Department are uninterrupted with the use of personal protective equipment as needed.
3. That the City of Elkader acknowledges that the CDC indicates the virus is mainly spread from person-to-person contact but it may be possible to spread by touching surfaces or objects that has the virus on it and then touching their face. Consequently, all residents are encouraged, in addition to the safe practices outlined earlier by the Governor:
    - a. to wash hands thoroughly and often;
    - b. disinfect surfaces often;
    - c. businesses should enforce the 6' social distancing recommendation or only allow one customer in the store at a time if this can not be followed;
    - d. on entry to a business, the customer shall be asked to wash their hand or use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol;
    - e. all residents should begin tracking their contacts before in case they become infected;
    - f. encourage only one member of the family to go shopping for essentials
  4. The City acknowledges and will enforce the Governor's proclamations.
  5. That this proclamation of Emergency may be modified and/or superseded by future proclamation of the office of the Mayor of Elkader as future events warrant.
  6. That any violation of any proclamation of the Office of the Mayor of the City of Elkader, Iowa shall be enforceable by the Elkader Police Department and any violation of the same shall be a violation of State law and criminally prosecuted as such and further subject to a court action seeking immediate relief to enjoin the behavior.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Elkader to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.



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Josh R. Pope,  
Mayor