The HAND Update

An informational newsletter for Bloomington neighborhood residents

Website: bloomington.in.gov/neighborhoods
Phone: 812-349-3420
f City of Bloomington, IN-Neighborhood Services

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTERESTS:

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Please direct questions or concerns to:
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City of Bloomington, Indiana
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Monroe County Public Health Authority Extends Stay-At-Home Order Until May 15th at 11:59 p.m.

The Monroe Country Public Health Authority has extended the stay-at-home order locally, thus maintaining the status quo for all of Monroe County, including the City of Bloomington, until May 15 at 11:59 p.m. For full details, please see the official Health Order, issued by Dr. Thomas Sharp, Monroe County Health Officer.

HAND Awards Three Neighborhood Improvement Grants for 2020

The HAND Department is pleased to announce three Neighborhood Improvement Grant recipients for 2020. Upon the recommendation of the Neighborhood Improvement Grant Council, the Redevelopment Commission has awarded funding to the following neighborhood groups for their projects:

- **Bloomington Housing Authority Residents' Council**; $4532.74 for three informational kiosks and their annual Back to School Bash for resident school children.
- **Park Ridge East Neighborhood Association**; $3488.00 for continued efforts to restore a native ecosystem to the Park Ridge East Park.
- **Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association**; $6780.00 to install twelve section markers in Rose Hill Cemetery.

Congratulations to all three recipients neighborhoods! Thank you for your dedication to improving Bloomington neighborhoods and to ensuring that Bloomington continues to be a wonderful community in which to live!

City of Bloomington Utilities Encourages Flushing Pipes in Vacant Buildings

The City of Bloomington Utilities (CBU) is encouraging building owners and property managers to consider implementing a water management program in currently unoccupied properties to prevent water stagnation in the service line and plumbing system. While CBU continues to maintain essential water services, the disinfectants with which water is treated can lose efficacy over time when internal plumbing is not being used, which can result in bacterial contamination in the water inside the building. CBU recommends running cold water for 20 minutes once per week in vacant buildings, and conducting another thorough flushing before occupants return to the building. The purpose of flushing is to replace all water inside building piping with fresh water. Setting the water heater to at least 120°F can also help to prevent bacterial growth. Customers with questions or concerns about their water during the COVID-19 emergency or at any other time may contact CBU at cs@bloomington.in.gov or 812-339-1444. Also see the CDC website for creating a water management program during a prolonged shutdown.

www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html

STAY STRONG BLOOMINGTON!

TOGETHER, WE GOT THIS!

Did You Receive a Digital Equity Community Survey?

6500 Bloomington households recently received a survey from the City of Bloomington to assess how residents use internet services. The City is conducting a *Digital Equity Community Survey* to identify broadband service needs and gaps in the community, including those related to access, affordability, digital literacy, and device ownership, and to develop a strategic plan for mitigating those gaps to improve internet accessibility and affordability for Bloomington residents. Although plans to conduct the survey were made before the COVID-19 pandemic, the current crisis highlights the need for digital equity to allow all residents to work, study, and stay connected. The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and may be returned in the enclosed postage-paid envelope by May 20. **Residents with and without internet access at home who receive the survey are encouraged to complete all sections that apply to them.** The responses gathered will be anonymized and personal contact information will not be shared. The City partnered with CTC Technology and Energy to conduct this scientific survey. For more information please contact Rick Dietz, Director, Information Technology Services Department at dietzr@bloomington.in.gov or 812-349-3454.