

City of Palouse

PO Box 248 • 120 E Main St

Palouse, WA 99161

509-878-1811

Hello Palouse Community,

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to spread within the United States, including here in Washington State, it is important that citizens of Palouse have accurate and up-to-date information related to the health and safety of our community. Palouse City leadership and staff continue to monitor and communicate with health officials to understand the risks associated with COVID-19 and the impact that this virus may have on our community. That said, I am sending this brief email to update the community regarding the state of our city services and how we plan to move forward in the foreseeable future. As COVID-19 mitigation strategies continue to expand and evolve, I thought it important to provide specific information regarding the City of Palouse.

Please note all information listed below is effective immediately and subject to change:

City Hall:

Hours of operations: Tuesday – Friday (8am – 4pm)

Preferred mode of service and inquiry: Phone calls and emails to Deputy Clerk, Ann Thompson

- Phone: 509-878-1811
- Email: deputyclerk@palouse.com
- Web: <http://visitpalouse.com/government/>

Updates & reminders:

- As always, payment of water/sewer bills can be done online at www.visitpalouse.com/payments, via the drop-box at City Hall, over the phone, as well as in person (least preferred at this juncture).

Police Services:

Hours of Operations: 24/7

Recommended mode of service and inquiry: Call police dispatch

- Phone: 509-332-2521
- Email: Police@palouse.com
- Web: <http://visitpalouse.com/police>

Updates & reminders:

- While active patrols will remain constant, reactive responses to community requests are effective and welcomed.
- Police staff will be adhering to recommended safety and health best practices, which may include but are not limited to 1. personal distancing, 2. wearing masks, 3. wearing gloves, 4. asking individuals to have conversations outside vs. inside residences, & 5. utilizing hand sanitizer before and after interactions.
- If you see something or someone suspicious, please report it so the police can investigate it.

Public Works

Hours of operations: Monday – Friday (7 am – 3:30 pm)

Recommended mode of service and inquiry: Phone calls and emails to Deputy Clerk, Ann Thompson

- Phone: 509-878-1811
- Email: deputyclerk@palouse.com
- Web: <http://visitpalouse.com/government/>

Updates and reminders:

- Please flush only biodegradable items (i.e., toilet paper); any and all other items create issues with our wastewater/sewer systems.
- Public restrooms will be closed immediately given the challenges associated with keeping restrooms up to the necessary standards to ensure public health and safety.

EMS & Fire Services

Hours of Operations: 24/7 on call

Recommended mode of service and inquiry: Non-emergency calls and emails to Fire Chief, Scott Beeson and EMS Coordinator, Annie Pillers via City Hall at 509-878-1811

- Emergencies: 911
- Web: <http://visitpalouse.com/fire-ems/>

Updates and reminders:

- EMS staff will be adhering to COVID-19 health and safety best practices to ensure the safety of the community as well as EMS staff. The noticeable change will involve EMS staff wearing respirator masks. For more information visit fire-ems website.

City Government Council, Board, and Commission:

- City Council Meetings: Currently transitioning to online meeting platform and plan to maintain the regularly scheduled meeting dates.
- Board of Adjustment: To be determined
- Planning Commission: To be determined

For the more in-depth information, please view the following pages:

Recommended COVID Resources:

- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- Washington State Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov>
 - COVID-19 Call Center: 1 (800) 525-0127 (press #)

Other Community Support Resources:

- Palouse Community Services Corps: Connecting volunteers and service providers with those in need in the 99161 zip code.
 - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1350345755163481/>
- Garfield Palouse School
 - <https://www.garpal.net/>
- Palouse Library
 - <http://visitpalouse.com/library/>
- Palouse Hotline
 - <https://palouse.persona.co/>

Sincerely,

Chris Cook

Mayor

City of Palouse