



georgetown

COUNTY CHAMBER

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 TRENDS

As of Monday, March 23, 2020 @ 6:45 pm

- The Families First Coronavirus Response Act was passed and signed into law by Congress and the President last week. The bill addresses paid sick leave & paid emergency family and medical leave for businesses with fewer than 500 employees, and more.
- ***Your Georgetown County Chamber of Commerce will host a teleconference with Tom Winslow and Jessica Benson of Goldfinch and Winslow to discuss the Act with you. TUESDAY, MARCH 24 @ 9 am. Log in information is below.***

Families First Coronavirus Response Act Discussion with Tom Winslow, Attorney at Law
Tue, Mar 24, 2020 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (EDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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US Small Business Administration Loans: South Carolina small businesses and nonprofits that have suffered economic injury as a result of COVID-19 are now eligible to apply for up to \$2 million in disaster loan Assistance from the [US Small Business Administration](#). [Click here](#) to download the paper application form to see what is needed before applying online. Go to www.SBA.gov to learn more.

SAVE THE DATE: We will host a teleconference with William Furman of the Small Business Administration to discuss SBA disaster loans on Wednesday, March 25 at 10 am. We will send you log in information Tuesday.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- President Trump has postponed the deadlines for [REAL ID](#). A new date has not yet been released.
- The Senate reconvenes on an [economic stimulus package](#) with a test vote after increasing bitter negotiations.
- The Federal Reserve will soon announce a [Main Street Business Lending Program](#) to support lending to eligible small-and-medium sized businesses.
- The Federal government announced that [payments on federally held student loans may be placed on hold and interest will be waived](#) for at least 60 days.
- **US Small Business Administration Loans:** South Carolina small businesses and nonprofits that have suffered economic injury as a result of COVID-19 are now eligible to apply for up to \$2 million in disaster loan Assistance from the [US Small Business Administration](#). [Click here](#) to download the paper application form to see what is needed before applying online. Go to www.SBA.gov to learn more.
 - **SAVE THE DATE: We will host a teleconference with William Furman of the Small Business Administration to discuss SBA disaster loans on Wednesday, March 25 at 10 am. We will send you log in information Tuesday.**

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA UPDATES

Tonight from SCDHEC, South Carolina now has 299 people who have tested positive for Coronavirus with 5 deaths. By County, positive cases are located in Kershaw (54), Richland (43), Beaufort (21), Greenville (31), Charleston (31), Lexington (17), Horry (16), Anderson (15), Orangeburg (8), Darlington (7), Lancaster (7), York (7), Clarendon (4), Sumter (4), Berkeley (4), Florence (3), Spartanburg (3), Dorchester (2), Fairfield (2), Georgetown (2), Greenwood (2), Lee (2), Oconee (2), Abbeville (1), Aiken (1), Calhoun (1), Chester (1), Colleton (1), Dillon (1), Edgefield (1), Jasper (1), Marlboro (1), Newberry (1), Pickens (1), Saluda (1).

By EXECUTIVE ORDER: Governor Henry McMaster has directed SLED and local law enforcement to disperse, at their discretion, gatherings of people in groups of three (3) or more if they believe the gathering could pose a threat to public health. This may include groups gathering at the beach, parking lots, sand bars, etc. This doesn't apply to law abiding businesses or employers.

EDUCATION

Students Loans: The Federal government announced that payments on federally held student loans may be placed on hold and interest will be waived for at least 60 days. Click [HERE](#) for information. For privately held students loans, contact your lending institution.

SC Public Schools: The U.S. Department of Education has suspended student assessments and accountability requirements normally scheduled for the spring. SCDE is working with the vendors of college entrance such as SAT, ACT, credit such as AP and workforce readiness assessments to explore innovative approaches to continue with these assessments. Click [HERE](#) for information.

Georgetown County School District: GCSD will begin delivering meals via school bus for students ages 18 and under beginning Tuesday, March 24: Click [HERE](#) for announcements from Georgetown County School District and to confirm times, dates and locations for meal delivery and pick up. This is in addition to the school pick-up sites.

- Mitney Project in Georgetown: 11 – 11:15 am
- Georgetown Housing Authority, Maryville South Campus on Hinds St.: 11:25 – 11:40 am

- North Santee Community Center on Mt. Zion Rd.: 11:50 am – 12:05 pm
- Andrews Recreation Center on MLK Dr.: 11:35 – 11:50 am
- Choppee Recreation Center on Choppee Rd.: 11:45 am – 12 noon
- Mt. Zion Baptist Church on Parkersville Rd. in Pawleys Island: 11:30 – 11:45 am

Meals may be picked up from school sites from 11:30 – 12:30 Monday – Thursday; children must be present in order to receive the meals.

- Andrews attendance area: Andrews High School and Sampit Elementary
- Georgetown attendance area: Georgetown Middle School, McDonald Elementary, Maryville Elementary and Kensington Elementary
- Carvers Bay attendance area: Browns Ferry Elementary, Carvers Bay Middle, Pleasant Hill Elementary and Plantersville Elementary
- Waccamaw attendance area: Waccamaw Elementary.

The district is also working to offer WiFi from area high schools which accessible from parking lots. They are also working to identify sites throughout the county to help with internet delivery.

For students who have not yet picked up their packets or devices, please call your school for instruction.

Georgetown County

Tidelands Health is encouraging community members to participate in “Thank you to the helpers” effort. Click [HERE](#) for information.

Georgetown County Public Library branches are closed, but wi-fi services are still available You are invited park at the Waccamaw branch and use wi-fi from your vehicle – remember to maintain social distancing. Cal 843-545-3623 for the password.

Delivery of Prescription Medicines: Beginning Monday, March 23, deputies with the Georgetown County Sheriff’s Office will begin delivering prescription medications to older adults and other county residents identified as high-risk to complications from the coronavirus, according to Sheriff Carter Weaver. Click [HERE](#) for information.

Beaches in Georgetown County are currently open, but are subject to the Governor's Executive Order about crowds gathering. Please help keep our beaches open by adhering to the Governor's orders.

TRENDS WE ARE SEEING

- International Olympic Committee member Dick Pound announced that the Summer Olympics in Tokyo will be **postponed**.
- **States continue to take extreme measures to flatten the curve of COVID-19.** Most recently, Connecticut, Illinois, New York, Louisiana, Ohio, New Jersey, Indiana, Massachusetts and more ordered all nonessential workers to remain at home. See a full list of state's COVID-19 orders [here](#).
- **The Federal Reserve will lend up to \$300 billion to businesses and cities, agreeing to buy** \$75 billion of Treasuries and \$50 billion of mortgage-backed securities each day this week. The new programs will include one that will buy newly issued corporate debt and another that will buy previously issued corporate debt. **A third new lending program** will buy securities backed by packages of auto loans, credit card loans and some small business loans.
- Stores with special hours designated for seniors to shop:
 - **BI-LO:** Stores and pharmacies will dedicate the hours of 8am to 9am, Monday – Friday, to seniors and those most at risk of COVID-19.
 - **Publix** is designating Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 7 to 8 a.m., as senior shopping hours for customers age 65 and over. This change in hours will begin Tuesday, March 24, and continue until further notice. Publix Pharmacy will also be open at 7 a.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to serve our senior population."
 - **Lowe's Foods** is also designating Tuesday and Wednesday mornings, 7-8 am, for Seniors and others who are more vulnerable to the virus.
 - **The Fresh Market:** Monday through Friday, 8 – 9 am for seniors and other individuals most at risk
 - **Walmart** announced it is introducing an hour-long senior shopping event March 24 that will be held every Tuesday through April 28 for customers 60 and older. The designated hour will start one hour before the retailer's 5,000-plus U.S. stores open.
 - **Target's** more than 1,800 stores nationwide will "reserve the first hour of shopping each Wednesday at stores nationwide for vulnerable guests," the

company said, adding it is "encouraging other guests to plan their shopping trips around this timeframe."

- **Dollar General** also is dedicating time for senior shoppers – the first hour of shopping each day.
- **Kroger** Mondays through Thursdays, 7 - 8:00 a.m., designated shopping hours for seniors over 60 and high-risk individuals

Restaurants: For a list of local restaurants offering take-out, delivery and/or curbside service, click **HERE**. This information is updated throughout the day. Please go to www.VisitGeorge.com for more information. Send changes or updates to jdyer@visitgeorge.com.

ACCURATE & VALUABLE RESOURCES

During this time of heightened stress and anxiety, we ask that you please refer to **official sources** for information.

- **Tidelands Health:** <https://www.tidelandshealth.org/>
- **SC Department of Environmental Control:** <https://scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- **SCDHEC Care Line** at 1-855-472-3432.
- **Centers for Disease Control:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/>
 - [Guidance for businesses and employers](#). This page includes strategies for employers to use now, and information about planning for a potential U.S. outbreak.
- **SC Department of Employment and Workforce:** <https://dew.sc.gov/individuals/apply-for-benefits>
- **South Carolina Department of Insurance:** <https://www.doi.sc.gov/948/COVID-19>
- **Small Business Administration:** <https://www.sba.gov/page/guidance-businesses-employers-plan-respond-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>
- **U.S. Chamber of Commerce:** <https://www.uschamber.com/>