

Greetings Eureka,

We at the Town of Eureka want to reach out and connect with our community as we experience this uncertain and stressful time in our Nation and frankly in our World. We want to say thank you to everyone for staying calm and working together. It has been inspiring and heartwarming to see how many of our community members are reaching out and helping a neighbor, a friend and even strangers. Our community is strong and we can make it through this together.

Thank you to the school for making the transition to remote schooling go so smoothly and to the parents and families that are adjusting to new needs and schedules. Thank you to the businesses that are taking extra precautions and making incredibly hard decisions. And, thank you to the businesses and workers who are working non-stop to keep us protected with a steady supply of necessary items while we practice social distancing and staying home as much as we can.

We ask that everyone do their part and follow the guidelines our Governor has released. We know that social distancing is challenging and we know that economically it is putting a lot of pressure on many of our residents and businesses. We are working to put together a list of services and resources on our website (www.eureka-mt.gov). This will be completed and up over the weekend. This resource page will be a place to find accurate information on the outbreak as well as what is being done for economic relief. Please note, most of the resource page will be links to other pages- we are not the experts on this outbreak but can be a venue to share information with you. Until then, for the best resource of Montana updates please visit the COVID-19 Task Force website: <https://covid19.mt.gov/>.

We are also asking that all of our establishments that fit with the Governor's outline as gathering places close their doors by 8:00pm tonight through March 27th, 2020. Please read his press release at <https://news.mt.gov/governor-bullock-announces-closure-of-dine-in-food-service-and-alcoholic-beverage-businesses-and-other-activities-that-pose-enhanced-risks-to-curtail-spread-of-covid-19>

The Town of Eureka is part of the Lincoln County-City Health Board. We are being provided updates and at this time there are no cases of COVID-19 in Lincoln County. We will continue to work closely with the Health Board throughout this situation.

In addition to all of this, we know it is incredibly difficult to navigate the world of social media. Please be kind to each other and only share information from reliable resources. Sharing false information or making statements that are not factual causes additional and unwarranted panic. And we cannot stress, be kind. We are all emotionally strained, let's not take it out on each other. Find some peace and connectivity on social media not more stress!

As for the Town of Eureka, we closed the doors to the public at 4:30 today (Friday 3/20/2020) and will not reopen until Monday March 30th, 2020. We will let you know if that date is extended. Lisa and Theresa are going to remain at work though. Please use the drop box at the front entrance and if you need anything please call. The Town Police are working around the clock as well with new measures in place to ensure their own safety as well as all of you. And our public works staff are working to make sure all of our systems stay online. Our emergency services and medical professionals remain vigilant and are doing all they can to keep this from our doorstep. Please help them by continuing the social distancing.

We have an incredible and caring community in Eureka. Please use the Facebook pages that some very kind individuals have set up to ask for help or to offer help where needed. In this time of need, we ask that everyone check on their neighbors, friends and loved ones and help all of us remain healthy. We can rebuild our economy; we have before we will again. We cannot replace our people.

We are here to serve and remember- we live in one of the most beautiful places in the world. Social distancing does not mean you cannot leave your house- go for a walk, a bike ride, a drive for a breath of fresh air. We saw robins today and heard a meadowlark - Spring is here!

With dedication to this community,

LeeAnn Schermerhorn
Mayor