



On March 17, Buckeye Mayor Jackie A. Meck [issued a proclamation](#) declaring a local emergency in response to the COVID-19 virus.

Issuing the proclamation allows the Mayor to direct the City Manager to take quick action in coordinating emergency operations to manage the spread of COVID-19 and have access to funding without convening a formal Council meeting. It also lays the groundwork for Buckeye to be eligible for federal funding reimbursement in the future.

As we all work through this difficult time, many residents are asking how they can help our community. We thank you for your concerns for others and have compiled a list of the most common questions we've received on how to help.

**How can I help the community?**

Give blood. The American Red Cross is seeing an extreme shortage due to canceled blood drives. The Red Cross is taking precautions to keep people safe during the donation process and you can make an appointment to donate at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org).

If you have the means, you can also donate to our local food banks. [All Faith Community Food Bank](#) in downtown Buckeye serves thousands of households across our community, and your help is greatly needed.

If you are interested in helping Arizona respond to COVID-19, the Arizona Department of Health Services wants to hear from you at [AZDHS.gov](http://AZDHS.gov).

**Are local businesses still open?**

Yes. Local small businesses are the backbone of our economy. You can support our local businesses by visiting their websites and shopping online. We encourage the community to support their local businesses, while taking the proper precautions to protect everyone's health and safety.

**Is City Hall closed?**

Effective at 6 p.m. on March 19, Buckeye will begin restricting access to all city buildings. This does not mean City Hall is closed. It means we are protecting the health of our residents and employees by limiting interaction with others.

City employees are still available to assist residents and businesses with planning and zoning, building permits and engineering services by appointment during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

You can make an appointment by calling 623-349-6200 or emailing:

- Planning & Zoning – [planningandzong@buckeyeaz.gov](mailto:planningandzong@buckeyeaz.gov)
- Building permits – [permitcenter@buckeyeaz.gov](mailto:permitcenter@buckeyeaz.gov)
- Engineering questions – [engineering@buckeyeaz.gov](mailto:engineering@buckeyeaz.gov)

Project meetings will also change to conference calls or video conferencing.

### **Is COVID-19 testing being offered to the public by the city?**

Testing for COVID-19 requires an order from your medical doctor, and you must be showing symptoms of the virus first. If you are experiencing symptoms (fever, cough and shortness of breath) please contact your medical provider for further guidance.

### **Are there any confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the city?**

Maricopa County Public Health, who is responsible for tracking the virus in Maricopa County, is not confirming whether COVID-19 cases are in specific cities. This is because they know there is community spread of COVID-19 in Maricopa County.

However, you can take the necessary precautions to prevent infection, the same way we do with flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. This rids your hands of germs you pick up by touching surfaces that may have unknowingly been exposed by an infected person
- Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth. This keeps germs on your hands from entering your body and infecting you.
- Avoid people who are sick, and avoid groups of 10 people or more
- Stay home if you are sick so you do not expose others
- Avoid unnecessary physical contact with others