

For immediate release
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The Board of Commissioners have issued a Disaster Emergency Declaration for Monroe County, beginning today, March 17th.

In addition, the Commissioners have instituted Phase Two of our Continuity of Government Operations plan. Non-essential personnel are to remain at home and many county buildings will be closed. We have taken this step to ensure the health and safety of our county employees and our community.

- The following buildings will be closed to the public:
 - The Monroe County Courthouse
 - Monroe County offices in the North Showers Building
 - Monroe County Health Building
 - Monroe County parks (not the trails)

Residents who wish to transact business with any departments located in North Showers, the Health Building, or in the Courthouse should call or email the department for further information. Additional information will be posted on Department pages on the county's website (co.monroe.in.us). Elected Officials and Department heads will be working on site or remotely during the closure.

- Only essential Monroe County employees will be asked to report for work. All Monroe County employees – full time and part time – will be paid during this public health emergency.
- The Monroe County Courts are following a similar plan for employees, as only essential employees are requested to come in to work. Only essential hearings and emergency hearings will be held. Attorneys have been informed and the Court is attempting to inform all litigants as well. If anyone has a hearing scheduled, but is unsure of whether it will be held, please call Court Services at 812-349-2615.
- The Monroe County airport will remain open at this time, with Air Traffic Control. Two maintenance / airline emergency responders will be on site.
- The Treasurer's office will be closed to the public. Tax bills are scheduled to be mailed April 1st. Spring tax bills will be due May 11th. There will be a number of methods to pay your bill, including mail, phone, drop-off and an online option. The Treasurer's office may be reached at: 812-349-2523 or treasurer@co.monroe.in.us. A press release explaining payment options will be issued soon and will also be available on the Monroe County website (<https://www.co.monroe.in.us/>).
- At this time, the Monroe County Solid Waste Management District will continue with normal operations at the rural and South Walnut sites. However, the reuse section of the sites is closed at this time. Call 812-349-2020 or visit gogreendistrict.com for additional information.
- The Monroe County Board of Commissioners **will meet**, as scheduled, on Wednesday March 18th at 10 am in the Nat U Hill Meeting room. The Courthouse will be open for

meeting attendees only. However, the Commissioners strongly encourage residents to stay home rather than attend the meeting. The meeting will be broadcast on CATS and it will be recorded / archived on the Monroe County Public Library website.