



Birthplace of William McKinley  
25th President of the United States

# Office of the Mayor

## City of Niles, Ohio



34 West State Street  
Niles, Ohio 44446

STEVEN MIENTKIEWICZ  
MAYOR

330-544-9000 EXT. 1101  
smientkiewicz@thecityofniles.com

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 4, 2020

COVID-19- Update

The City of Niles continues to actively monitor the COVID-19 situation, daily and follow the guidelines set forth by the Governor of Ohio, Ohio Department of Health and CDC. The administration has made numerous adjustments to its operations as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 situation. The administration has implemented critical strategies, due to the emergency to ensure that basic City operations continue, and the community is served; however, residents have experienced some non-essential procedural changes. Due to the Governor's social distancing orders and recommendations made by state and local health departments, these adjustments were appropriate and are consistent with the State of Ohio and surrounding communities.

Because the pandemic has plateaued, readjustments are now necessary. The City of Niles strongly encourage residents to check the City website, social media, and the local news stations for more information on COVID-19. The City will continue to follow preventative measures set by the Ohio Department of Health and CDC. The Ohio Department of Health, as well as the City of Niles reminds the community and its' employees to be patient and kind throughout these difficult times, as we are all experiencing this regeneration together.

#### Customer Payments

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, residents are urged to continue to pay both Utility bills and Court fines online, through the city and municipal court websites. All face-to-face utility payments continue to be prohibited inside City Hall. Customers may continue to utilize the drop-box on the side of City Hall. Payments can also be accepted via mail or online, either through the city portal (fee associated) or online bill-pay through personal bank accounts (no fee associated). The Utility Billing Office will now provide return envelopes to accommodate customers who choose mail-in payment.

**Effective Monday, June 1,** and until further notice, Because of COVID-19 situation pertaining to bars/restaurants, which caused hardship to Niles businessowners, The City of Niles will offer a one-time/pre-arranged six-month payment plan for utility statements beginning in **June**. The **May** statement

would be spread over the next six months. Those businesses wishing for emergency relief must contact the Director of Public Service to establish a payment plan.

### **Utility Service**

**Effective Tuesday, May 12,** and until further notice, customer service for water meter repair/replacement shall resume under the Governor's social distancing guidelines. Customer Service representatives shall wear a mask upon entering a home or business. Utility shut-off for delinquency continues to be suspended until further notice, though monthly utility payment is still required. Customers who are delinquent should contact the Utility Billing Office to set up a six-month payment arrangement. This arrangement is an effort to provide relief to our residents, due to the economic impact that the COVID-19 situation may have on families. Applications for new service or to eliminate service will continue to be performed via phone/mail.

### **Planning and Permitting**

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, the Planning and Permitting office will be open for appointment only. Appointments will be scheduled M, T, TH and can be made by calling the office. All permits/registration and payment can be completed online. All in-person Building/Housing inspections shall be completed at the discretion of the inspector, while following the Governor's request for continued social distancing. Planning and Permitting representatives shall wear a mask upon entering a home or business.

### **Park/Cemetery**

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, the Niles Wellness Center shall remain closed. Memberships will be extended to reflect the time that the wellness center has been closed. Upon reopening, the wellness center shall remain on Summer hours. The wellness center shall reopen under the Governor's request for continued social distancing.

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, all parks remain open. However, children's playgrounds shall remain closed until further notice. These facilities shall reopen under the Governor's request for continued social distancing.

**Effective Monday, May 18,** the Kennedy basketball court and Stevens tennis courts will reopen under the Governor's request for continued social distancing.

**Effective Monday, May 4 through May 31,** and until further notice, park pavilions/cabins shall remain closed for rental for gatherings. Rental shall resume on Monday, June 1. All rentals shall comply with the Governor's request for continued social distancing. Please contact the Park Department with questions.

**Effective Monday, May 4 through May 31,** and until further notice, the cemetery chapel shall remain closed. The chapel shall reopen on Monday, June 1. The chapel shall reopen under the Governor's request for continued social distancing.

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, the Park/Cemetery office will be open for appointment only. Appointments will be scheduled M, T, TH and can be made by calling the office. All permits/registration and payment can be completed via mail or appointment.

### **Senior Center**

**Effective Monday, May 4 through May 31,** or until further notice, the Niles Senior Center shall remain closed. The senior center shall reopen on Monday, June 1, to Niles SCOPE members only. The senior center shall reopen under the Governor's guidelines.

## **Office of the Mayor**

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, Niles City Hall will remain closed to the general public. Those needing access to City Hall must do so by appointment only and must access the building via the West entrance. For appointments, please call 330-544-9000. The Mayor's office is available for public concerns during normal business hours via phone or email. The Mayor is accessible to his constituency via phone, email, social media 24-7.

**Effective Tuesday, May 12,** and until further notice, garage/yard sale permits issued by the Mayor's Office shall be obtained by appointment only. Those interested must schedule by calling the Mayor's Office. Property owners must follow the Governor's request for increased social distancing and overcrowding.

**Effective Monday, May 18,** and until further notice, all solicitation permits issued by the Mayor's Office shall be obtained by appointment only. Those interested must schedule by calling the Mayor's Office. Solicitors must follow the Governor's request for increased social distancing and overcrowding.

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, access to all municipal owned buildings is limited. Visitors shall make prior arrangements, strongly recommended to wear a mask, and follow the Governor's continued request for increased social distancing and overcrowding.

## **Safety-Service**

**Effective Monday, May 4,** and until further notice, the Niles Police and Fire Stations will remain closed to the general public. Walk-in emergencies will continue to be treated case-by-case. Residents who have a medical concern, should contact their doctor or call 911 for a medical emergency. Residents who have general questions should call the non-emergency number at 330-544-9022. This strategy follows the Governor's continued request for increased social distancing and overcrowding.

# CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 **Ohio**

Department  
of Health

Protect yourself and others from  
COVID-19 by taking these precautions.

## PREVENTION

For additional information call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).



STAY HOME



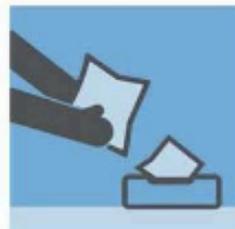
PRACTICE  
SOCIAL  
DISTANCING



GET ADEQUATE SLEEP  
AND EAT WELL-  
BALANCED  
MEALS



WASH HANDS OFTEN  
WITH WATER AND SOAP  
(20 SECONDS  
OR LONGER)



DRY HANDS WITH  
A CLEAN TOWEL  
OR AIR DRY  
YOUR HANDS



COVER YOUR MOUTH  
WITH A TISSUE OR  
SLEEVE WHEN  
COUGHING OR SNEEZING



AVOID TOUCHING  
YOUR EYES, NOSE,  
OR MOUTH WITH  
UNWASHED HANDS  
OR AFTER  
TOUCHING SURFACES



CLEAN AND DISINFECT  
"HIGH-TOUCH"  
SURFACES OFTEN



CALL BEFORE VISITING  
YOUR DOCTOR



PRACTICE GOOD  
HYGIENE HABITS