

Lac Vieux Desert Band Of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribal Government

N4698 US 45 P.O. Box 249 • Watersmeet, Michigan 49969

Phone: 906-358-4577 • Fax: 906-358-4785

Executive Officers:

James Williams Jr., Tribal Chairman
Henry Smith, Tribal Vice-Chairman
Andrea Russell, Tribal Treasurer
Alice Brunk, Tribal Secretary



Council Members:

Tina Caron
Roberta Ivey
Jeffery McGeshick
Mitchell McGeshick
June Saad

COVID-19 NOTICE & TRIBAL MEMBER EMERGENCY STIMULUS PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: Tribal Members
FROM: LVD Tribal Council
DATE: March 23, 2020
RE: COVID-19 State of Emergency

Pursuant to the Tribe's March 17, 2020 State of Emergency Declaration and consistent with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-21: temporary requirement to suspend activities that are not required to sustain or protect life, the Tribal Council has taken steps to protect the health, safety and welfare of Tribal Members, employees and guests by establishing a critical infrastructure list of Tribal employees and modifying the critical infrastructure list for Casino employees, modifying business hours and closing all Tribal Government Buildings to the public. Tribal leadership will continue to work hard to meet the needs of each Tribal Member during these difficult times.

Effective 12:01 a.m. on March 24, 2020 until April 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. (tentatively):

- All Tribal Government Buildings will be closed to the public and locked.
- All employees designated necessary for critical infrastructure needs at the Tribal Government Center and Tribal Departments will be available Monday-Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. by phone appointment only. Between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. calls will be answered by transferring main Department lines to designated staff.
- The Lac Vieux Desert Cenex will be open 7 days a week between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- Elders meals and errands will continue in order to ensure that the needs of Tribal Elders are met.
- Children's meals will continue in order to ensure that the needs of Tribal and other community children are met.

- The LVD Health Center – Watersmeet, MI location will continue to provide essential medical, dental and behavioral health services. Virtual medical, pharmacy and behavioral health visits will begin March 23, 2020 along with curbside prescription pick up and no cost mail order prescriptions. Optical and chiropractic services are suspended until further notice. Pre-screening will be required before entering the facility. All non-essential appointments will be rescheduled. Please contact the LVD Health Center for more information.
- The LVD Health Center – Eagle River, WI location will remain open and continue to provide essential medical visits. Virtual medical visits will be available beginning March 23, 2020. Pre-screening will be required before entering the facility.
- LVD Law Enforcement will be available 24hrs and will soon be cross-deputized by Watersmeet Township. For assistance please continue call 911.

Additional stimulus measures taken by the Tribal Council to ensure the well-being of Tribal members and their families includes the following:

- Each adult Tribal member will receive a \$500 COVID-19 Stimulus Payment to be mailed by April 3, 2020. Note ACH and Direct Deposit will not be available for these checks. Checks will also not be available for in-person pick up due to the on-going public health emergency. COVID-19 Stimulus Payments are non-taxable general welfare benefits.
- Elders Checks for April and Supplemental Retirements will be ready by March 27, 2020. Arrangements are being made to deliver checks within the area. Checks will not be available for in-person pick up due to the on-going public health emergency.
- For all Tribal Members, payments owed to the Tribe for any reason or withheld to repay funds owed to the Tribe, with the exception of child support payments, during the months of April and May will be deferred.
- For all tenants living in Tribal Housing of any kind monthly rents/mortgage payments are waived (deferred for rent to owns) for the months of April and May 2020. Payments will resume on June 1, 2020.

Tribal Leadership is also working hard on other emergency programs/services to assist Tribal Members. Please contact the Tribal Chairman or any member of Tribal Council if you have additional needs or become aware of the needs of others.

Official communication related to closures can be found on the Tribe and Casino's "Official" social media outlets and the Tribe, Casino and LVD Health Center's websites or the Tribe's COVID-19 Hotline at 906-358-4950.