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Grand Traverse County Health Department to resume limited Environmental Health Services

For nearly two months, the Grand Traverse County Health Department's Environmental Health division has conducted emergency only services, spending a majority of its time on COVID-19 response efforts. However, following the Governor's Executive Order 2020-77 (previously EO 2020-70), allowing for residential and commercial construction to resume on May 7th, 2020, Environmental Health services for permitting and evaluations will resume, but under certain guidelines.

As Grand Traverse County offices remain closed to the public until further notice, all Environmental Health services and transactions will take place with additional safety measures in an effort to further mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Clients requesting services are asked to do and should expect the following:

- Anyone looking for assistance from a member of the Environmental Health Department is encouraged to do so remotely. Onsite in-person meetings must be made by appointment only and may delay response time.
- Submit permit applications remotely. Make sure to include all necessary information to eliminate delays.
- Practice social distance at all times.
- Clients may be screened prior to interaction.
- Use proper personal protective equipment (PPE) when necessary.

With the additional safety guidelines and the backlog of permit applications, clients may experience a delay in response and services. "We understand that homeowners and contractors are anxious to proceed with their projects, but we ask that they be patient and respect the new processes to insure the safety of staff and themselves," said Dan Thorell, Environmental Health Director.

Information regarding available Environmental Health services, fees and applications can be found [here](#).

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