



Shawn M. Christ, AICP
Development Services Director
City of Oskaloosa, Iowa
shawn.christ@oskaloosaiowa.org
Phone: 641.673.9431

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A MESSAGE TO OUR CUSTOMERS REGARDING BUILDING INSPECTIONS AND COVID-19

In an effort to implement social distancing practices to slow the spread of COVID-19, while continuing to provide crucial inspection services for the long-term health and safety of our built community, the Development Services Department has enacted the following changes effective immediately:

1. Inspection schedulers may ask if you have anyone sick in your home or place of business and offer to reschedule if someone is.
2. If illness or symptoms strike after an inspection is scheduled, please contact the Development Services Department at 641-673-7472 to postpone an inspection, even if it is the same day.
3. Inspectors will wear gloves in your home and have hand sanitizer available for personal use. Face masks may be worn at the discretion of the inspector.
4. We will ask all customers, including contractors and building owners, to respect a space of 6 feet or more from inspectors when on-site.
5. If an inspector feels there is a potential medical threat, for any reason, they may immediately suspend the inspection for their safety.
6. Courtesy viewings and other non-essential site visits are suspended until further notice. Inspectors will continue to visit sites for active permits, essential visits, and for code compliance activities.
7. The following policies have been enacted within our department for your safety and our own:
 - a. City offices have been closed to the public through Sunday, April 12. Essential public services will continue to be provided online, via email or mail, and telephone.
 - b. Non-essential meetings will be cancelled or postponed.
 - c. Public meetings will be facilitated by teleconference.
 - d. Staff will be following CDC recommendations for handwashing/sanitizing and distancing.
 - e. Employees who become sick will be required to stay home until fully recovered.
 - f. In the event of prolonged absence, agreements are in place for outside inspection services.

Building permits are still required for all general contracting work within the City of Oskaloosa. Work commenced without a required permit will be subject to penalty. Fillable applications and submittal information are available at <https://www.oskaloosaiowa.org/263/Applications-Permits>.

For additional information and important updates please visit <http://www.oskaloosaiowa.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/oskaloosaiowa/>.

