

Pottawatomie County Community Daily Update

Pottawatomie County, Kan. (March 28, 2020) — In this time of national concern, Pottawatomie County officials want to keep you updated on a daily basis in regards to COVID-19. Your safety, health and security is our top priority.

DAILY UPDATE: March 28, 2020

Cases in Kansas: 261

Cases in Pottawatomie County: 1 (one); at home recovering.

The Governor has issued a State-Wide “Stay-at-Home” order, Executive Order No. 20-16. This goes into effect on Monday, March 30, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. and will go through Saturday, April 19, 2020, or until the statewide State of Disaster Emergency relating to COVID-19 expires, whichever is earlier.

Full order found here: <https://governor.kansas.gov/wp-content/.../2020/03/EO20-16.pdf>

Due to an increased demand and subsequent shortage of toilet paper as a result of COVID-19, we have heard of the increased use and flushing of non-flushable materials such as baby wipes, napkins and paper towels. While the “flushable” wipes concern is not new to wastewater facilities, there is an increased risk due to the current shortage of toilet paper.

We ask that our community members pay extra attention to what they are using and flushing and remind you not to flush anything other than toilet paper. Flushing wipes (even those labeled “flushable”) and other non-toilet paper materials causes clogs, backups, equipment and pipe breakages, and in bad cases, can even force raw sewage back into peoples’ homes. Because we are a public utility, the cost to repair these damages is unfortunately borne by the public. We want to avoid any and all of these problems and allow our facility workers to focus on their jobs to keep our facility up and running. We ask that you pay close attention to what is being used in your home, and make sure you are only flushing toilet paper and properly disposing of all other materials.

As a reminder, the following products are NOT flushable and must be disposed of in a waste basket:

- Paper towels
- Napkins
- Kleenex and other tissues
- Wet wipes/baby wipes
- (Even those labeled as “flushable” wipes)
- Diapers
- Feminine hygiene products
- Gauze/Band-Aids

Thank you for helping keep our community and facilities clean and functioning!

In short – please only flush toilet paper.

If you have specific questions you would like addressed, please e-mail them to pio@pottcounty.org. We will do the best we can to address your concerns.

Daily updates on COVID-19 and Pottawatomie County's actions will be submitted and posted to a variety of news stations, newspapers, web-sites and social media. These updates will be posted around 4:00 p.m. daily until the pandemic is no longer an issue. Emergent messages will be posted immediately as they come to officials. You may elect to receive notice of these life-safety messages by signing up for the Everbridge NE Kansas Regional Notification System. If you wish to receive these alerts, please visit our website <https://www.pottcounty.org/431/Emergency-Alerts> and select the "Sign Up" icon. These messages are categorized as Community Information and Public Health alerts. If you have questions or need assistance with signing up, contact Emergency Management at 785-457-3358

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