



COVID-19 and Kenosha Water Utility Updates

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For further information contact:

Kenosha Water Utility

262-653-4300

KENOSHA – While walk-in service has been suspended at the Kenosha Water Utility (KWU) to protect employee and community health during the current outbreak of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus), employees continue to provide services. The KWU is well-prepared with staff and infrastructure to maintain water service around the clock to help keep citizens healthy.

“The Kenosha Water Utility understands this is a stressful time for the community, and we are committed to taking all steps necessary to maintain safe, reliable water and wastewater treatment services,” said KWU General Manager Curt Czarnecki.

He emphasized that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stated that Americans can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with the EPA, has stated that COVID-19 has not been detected in public drinking water supplies. The Kenosha Water Utility production plant filters and disinfects the drinking water before it enters the distribution system. This disinfection process uses chlorine and is in strict conformance with EPA drinking water regulations. Chlorine is very effective at removing or inactivating pathogens like viruses, including COVID-19.

Other tips from the KWU:

- Hand washing using tap water is critical to preventing the spread of COVID-19. CDC and other health organizations recommend frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds each time.
- A toilet is not a trash can. Do not flush paper towels, “flushable” wipes, napkins, disinfectant wipes, rags or other substances. Flushing non-biodegradable items can result in sewage backups into homes by clogging pipes and causes problems at treatment facilities.
- All Utility billing and payments will continue without interruptions. While the lobby is closed, there are many alternate payment methods and drop off payment sites available for customers. Visit the KWU website for a list of the alternatives: <https://www.kenosha.org/departments/water-utility/customer-service/paying-your-bill>
- The household hazardous waste collection scheduled for April 4 has been canceled.
- Questions?
During regular business hours, call 262-653-4300
After hours for water emergencies, call 262-653-4330
After hours for sewer emergencies, call 262-653-4335

Additional resources regarding the coronavirus and water are available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus-and-drinking-water-and-wastewater>