



## Daily COVID-19 Briefing

March 27, 2020

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Events surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19 have been changing rapidly over the past several days. The Village is working to keep residents informed of what is happening in our community. Please understand the situation is fluid and policies and procedures may change with little notice.

### BEWARE OF COVID-19 SCAMS

As the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to impact the United States, scammers have seized the opportunity to prey on consumers. The Federal Communications Commission and Federal Trade Commission have been notified of the following scams:

- **Fake cures:** Fraudsters are advertising fake cures, fake vaccines, and so-called "immunity" pills, and including wild claims about the products' healing powers with no scientific or medical basis.
- **Fake testing:** Fraudsters are selling fake at-home testing kits or going door-to-door performing fraudulent tests in exchange for money.
- **Health care frauds:** Fraudsters are offering free (and phony) coronavirus testing to obtain Medicare or other healthcare insurance information, which they use to submit false claims for benefits.
- **Fake protection and supplies:** Fraudsters are advertising fake or un-tested protective equipment (including respirator masks) through websites, social media, and robocalls. The fraudsters have no real equipment to sell, or provide equipment that has not been proven to work for its advertised purpose. In some cases, you place an order, but you never get your shipment.
- **Fake services:** Fraudsters advertise a service, such as HVAC duct cleaning, as a way to "protect" your home and family from the virus.

- **Phishing:** Fraudsters are posing as representatives from well-known institutions, such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), in order to trick victims into downloading malware or providing personal identifying and financial information.
- **Fake health care providers:** Fraudsters pose as doctors or hospital employees and contact individuals via phone or email. They make false claims that they treated a relative or friend for coronavirus and demand money for the claimed treatment.
- **Identity theft:** Fraudsters are using social media to fraudulently seek donations or provide stimulus funds if the victim provides a bank account number or other personal identifying information. The fraudsters use the information entered by the victim to impersonate the victim and steal money from the victim's bank account.
- **Fake COVID-19 relief programs:** Fraudster claim to offer work-from-home opportunities, student loan repayment plans, and debt consolidation offers. Small businesses are also getting scam calls about virus-related funding or loans and online listing verification.
- **Securities fraud:** Fraudsters are promoting securities in publicly traded companies that they falsely claim have discovered the cure for coronavirus.
- **Fake charities:** Fraudsters are soliciting donations for charities to allegedly benefit people affected by the virus and pocketing the money for themselves.

**If you think you've been a victim of a coronavirus scam, contact the La Grange Park Police Department at (708) 352-2151 immediately.**

Consider the following tips to help you protect yourself from scams, including coronavirus scams:

- Do not respond to calls or texts from unknown numbers, or any others that appear suspicious.
- Never share your personal or financial information via email, text messages, or over the phone.
- Be cautious if you're being pressured to share any information or make a payment immediately.
- Scammers often spoof phone numbers to trick you into answering or responding. Remember that government agencies will never call you to

ask for personal information or money.

- Do not click any links in a text message. If a friend sends you a text with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure they weren't hacked.
- Always check on a charity (for example, by calling or looking at its actual website) before donating. [Click here to learn more about charity scams.](#)
- Learn more about about phishing attacks [here.](#)

## **TODAY'S NEWS RELEASES FROM ILLINOIS.GOV**

[Public Health Officials Announce 488 New Cases of Coronavirus Disease](#)

[IEMA NWS Develop Severe Sheltering Guidance to Address COVID-19 Guidelines](#)

[Governor Pritzker Partners with United Way of Illinois, Alliance of Illinois Community Foundations to Launch Illinois COVID-19 Response Fund \*\(released March 26\)\*](#)

## **VILLAGE HALL**

Village offices remain closed to walk-in traffic but staff remains in the office and ready to assist residents. Please call (708) 354-0225, email [info@LaGrangePark.org](mailto:info@LaGrangePark.org), or visit the Village website at [www.lagrangepark.org](http://www.lagrangepark.org).

## **CANCELED PUBLIC EVENTS**

- April Youth Commission Meeting (April 13)
- Citizen's Police Academy (April 18 - May 30)
- Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting (April 21)
- National Drug Take-Back Day (April 25)
- Community Clean-Up Day (May 2)

## **VILLAGE RESOURCES**

The Village has several resources available for residents. Click the links below for more information.

[Food, Household Essentials & Takeout Resources](#)

[Donate or Volunteer to Help](#)

[Village Emergency Alert System](#)

[COVID-19 Information & Cook County/IDPH Contact Information](#)

## ADDITIONAL COVID-19 RESOURCES

- [State of Illinois Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Response Website](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health](#)
- IDPH Hotline: 1-800-889-3931
- IDPH Email for Questions about COVID-19: [dph.sick@illiois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illiois.gov)
- IDPH Email for Info on State COVID Response: [Gov.COVID19stakeholder@illinois.gov](mailto:Gov.COVID19stakeholder@illinois.gov)
- [Cook County Department of Public Health](#)
- Cook County Hotline: 708-633-3319
- Cook County  
Email: [COVID19@cookcountyhhs.org](mailto:COVID19@cookcountyhhs.org)
- Cook County Alerts: Text "alertcook" to 888-777

**Village of La Grange Park**