



# Town of Ignacio Newsletter

May 5, 2020  
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## Utility Billing and COVID-19

The changes effective during the COVID-19 crisis are as follows:

- **The Town Board has made the decision to waive late fees as long as the COVID-19 Disaster Declarations are still in effect.**
- **No utilities will be shut off due to non-payment until further notice. We encourage you to stay as current with your bill payments as possible to avoid a large pay-off amount at the end of this crisis.**

Although staff is not currently in the office, we are still providing essential services, checking voicemail messages and emails, and responding to them.

The on-call number (970-759-3660) is for **utility emergencies ONLY**. If you have a utility billing question or need to notify the office of a change in tenancy, please leave a voicemail (970-563-9494) or send an email (tdunton@townofignacio.com).

## Census 2020

You count! Everyone counts! It only takes 5-10 minutes to complete the census questionnaire online. If you do not have a census ID, you can still take it by using your physical address. The online self-response to the Census is one of the easiest things the Federal government has developed. **EVERYONE NEEDS TO BE COUNTED**. The amount of local funding that will be received from the Federal Government **over the next 10 years** depends on the census numbers. Visit <https://2020census.gov/> and **BE COUNTED!** The Federal government has extended the self-response deadline in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please respond as soon as possible. Thank you.

## Irrigation Water

The Town receives irrigation water from the BIA via the Goodnight Ditch and from Los Pinos River, which is controlled by Pine River Irrigation District releasing water from Vallecito Reservoir. The Town has received some water from BIA and no water from the river due to the current low water level. The Town strives to provide irrigation water to its residents and will do so as soon as it is available to the Town.

## PPE for Ignacio Businesses

If your business is reopening and you need face masks for your employees in order to comply with the SJBP Orders, please contact mallred@townofignacio with the specific number of masks that you need, a contact name, and a phone number. Your contact person will get a phone call to set up an appointment to pick up the masks you need, as long as the Police Department supplies last.

## Spring Clean Up and Town of Ignacio Burn Pile

Spring Clean Up has been rescheduled to May 28-31, 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM each day. Due to Town Hall being closed, no tickets will be given out. You will need to bring your utility bill as proof of residency. No electronics, tires or chemicals will be accepted. Refrigerators will only be accepted if the Freon pump is removed, and it must be tagged by a licensed repairman.

The burn pile will remain open for disposal of your tree limbs, grass clippings and other organic material, weather permitting. Please note that, if the ground is muddy, access to the Burn Pile will be closed until conditions are satisfactory. If you have questions, please call Town Hall (970-563-9494).

## Upcoming Events

### PLEASE NOTE:

Until further notice, these events will take place via Remote Public Meeting. Check the Town's website for information on how to access these meetings.

### Town Board Meeting

Mon, May 4th  
6:30PM

### Town Board Meeting

Mon, May 18th  
6:30PM

## Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 10

## Happy Memorial Day

Monday, May 25



## If you smell natural gas

in your home or business, leave immediately! Do not turn light switches on or off, especially in the area you smell gas. Do not use your cell phone until you are outside and can no longer smell any gas. Call 911, the Fire Department (563-9501), or Dispatch (563-4401) if you smell gas at any time.



## Si huele gas natural

en su casa o negocio, salga inmediatamente, sin pagar los interruptores de las luces, especialmente en el área que se siente olor a gas. ESPERAR a usar su teléfono celular hasta que ya no pueda oler el gas. Llame al número local de emergencias 911, al Departamento de Bomberos (563-9501), o diligencia al número 563-4401, si siente olor a gas en cualquier momento.



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## Carbon Monoxide & Smoke Detectors

According to Colorado State Law, every home must have Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors installed. The smoke alarms must be installed both inside and outside of each sleeping room. Battery operated units should have a new battery installed every six (6) months.

## Town Dumpsters

Dumpsters located at Town Parks or Facilities are not intended for personal use. Signs at each location detail allowed usage. Illegal dumping will result in possible fines and citations. Please do not use dumpsters illegally. Thank you.

## Online Payments

You can pay your Town utility bill **ONLINE!** Go to the Town's website [www.townofignacio.com](http://www.townofignacio.com) and look for the "Pay Your Bill Online" link at the bottom of the home page. You will be charged a fee of \$1.00 for electronic checks, and \$0.75 + 2.25% of the transaction for debit or credit payments.

As always, you can mail your payment, drop it in the night drop box (no cash, please) or come to Town Hall during regular business hours (8 AM - 5 PM Monday thru Friday). We are always happy to see you!

## Town of Ignacio Facebook Page

The Town of Ignacio will use Facebook ("Town of Ignacio") to communicate and update our citizens on events, COVID-19 information, closures of facilities and roads, utility outages and/or disruptions, etc. The website is also updated often with important information. Please visit the website and Facebook page often, as we are trying to engage with our citizens and keep you updated.

## Ignacio Business Resources

Federal relief funding is forthcoming to the State of Colorado. All Ignacio businesses should apply for these funds if they qualify. For information on funding criteria and application processes, please visit [www.yeslpc.com](http://www.yeslpc.com) (website for La Plata County Economic Development Alliance).

## COVID-19 Information & Resources

To keep updated on the current Executive Orders from Governor Polis, San Juan Basin Public Health, and other agencies, go to the following websites:

- <https://www.colorado.gov/governor/>
- [www.https://sjbpublichealth.org/](https://sjbpublichealth.org/)
- <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe>
- [www.townofignacio.com](http://www.townofignacio.com)

If you are looking for resources to cope with the COVID-19 crisis, please contact [www.211Colorado.org](http://www.211Colorado.org). They will refer you to local resources that can assist you.

## WIC Program in Ignacio

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is open for business and accepting new families! For the safety of our families, WIC is conducting existing and new client appointments over the phone. WIC is a supplemental food and nutrition program for pregnant or postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five (5). Pregnant women or families experiencing loss of income may qualify to enroll.

To contact WIC, go to [www.coloradowicsignup.com](http://www.coloradowicsignup.com) to initiate a self-referral, and a WIC staff member will call you. La Plata County residents can call the Durango WIC office (970-335-2026).

## Sexual Assault Services Organization

SASO has opened an office in Ignacio! They are located in the ELHI Community Center, Room 22. If you or someone you know is in need of their services, please call them at 970-563-0695. You can also visit them during their regular business hours: Monday, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM; Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

PLEASE NOTE: The office may be closed during the COVID-19 pandemic; please call to confirm that services are available.

## Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP)

LEAP typically runs November 1 through April 30. LEAP helps eligible low-income households with winter home heating costs. To apply, go to [www.discovermygoodwill.org/LEAP](http://www.discovermygoodwill.org/LEAP).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting loss of income for so many people, the deadline to apply for LEAP funds has been extended until August 31, 2020, or until funds run out. Please apply quickly so you can receive this form of aid before it is no longer available.