



Town of Ignacio Newsletter

November 5, 2020

Volume VI, Issue 11

Welcome to Ignacio!

Please wear a face covering at all indoor public spaces and practice 6-foot social distancing.

These practices help keep our community healthy & businesses safe.



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, Nov 16th
6:30PM



Town Hall Partial Opening

Town Hall remains closed to the public indefinitely; however, staff is available by phone between 9 AM and 4 PM Monday thru Friday. If you call and get a message, please leave contact and pertinent information so staff can respond to your call accordingly. Town staff are available for in-person appointments, which require advanced scheduling and coordination by calling Town Hall.

Utility Billing Information

The Town Board has approved the below temporary changes to the utility billing policy due to the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration:

- **Late fees are waived during the Disaster Declaration**
- **Utilities will not be shut off for unpaid utility bills**
- **Unpaid utility balances will need to be paid in full at the conclusion of the Emergency Declaration in order to avoid future late charges and shut-offs**

The on-call number (970-759-3660) is for **utility emergencies ONLY**. If you have utility billing or service questions, please call Town Hall and speak with staff or leave a detailed voicemail; your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Email Billing

The Town will begin emailing bills in February. If you would like to receive your utility bill via email, please call the office 9 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday and give us your name, account number, phone number, and email address. Thanks!

Utility Assistance for Those Impacted by COVID-19

If you lost your job or had a reduction in pay as a direct result of COVID-19 and that loss has impacted your ability to stay current on your utility bills, please contact Town Hall to request possible assistance. The Town will require verification of job loss or reduction in pay. The possibility of this benefit runs out at the end of this year.

COVID-19 Information & Resources

There are increasing numbers of people testing positive for COVID-19. PLEASE follow all CDC and SJBPH recommendations for protecting yourself and your loved ones.

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/2020-executive-orders>
- <https://sjbpublichealth.org/>
- <https://www.colorado.gov/cdphe>

For information on COVID-19 Recovery and Assistance, please visit these websites:

- www.211Colorado.org
- <http://swhousingsolutions.com/program/community-emergency-assistance-coalition>
- www.swcoda.org
- <https://www.facebook.com/PineRiverShares/>
- <https://forms.gle/Y5ma2cdQye2adYhY8> (Ignacio COVID-19 Mutual Aid)
- www.aidtoall.org (La Plata County Economic Development Alliance)

LEAP

The Low-income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) began November 1 and runs through April 30. LEAP is a federally funded program and is administered by Discover Goodwill of Southern and Western Colorado. It is designed to help eligible low-income households with winter home heating costs. It is NOT intended to pay the entire cost of home heating. To apply, go to www.discovermygoodwill.org/LEAP. If you received assistance last year, you need to reapply this year.

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 numero 563-4401, si siente olor a gas en cualquier momento.



Town of Ignacio Newsletter

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 Burn Pile

The burn pile will remain open for disposal of your tree limbs, grass clippings and other organic material. 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.

Online Payments

You can pay your Town utility bill **ONLINE!** Go to the Town's website 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. You can mail your payment to: PO Box 459 Ignacio, CO 81137 or drop it in the night drop box (no cash, please). If you have a cash payment, please call Town Hall to set up an appointment. Thanks!

Town of Ignacio Website and Facebook Page

The Town of Ignacio will use our website (www.townofignacio.com) and Facebook page ("Town of Ignacio") to communicate with our citizens on COVID-19 information, events, closures of facilities and roads, utility outages and/or disruptions, etc. These sites are updated regularly with important information; we encourage you to visit them often for up to date information provided by the Town.

Happy Veteran's Day!

In honor of those who have served or are serving in our Armed Forces, all staff will be out of the office on Wednesday, November 11, in observance of Veterans Day.

Happy Thanksgiving!

All Town Staff will also be out of the office on Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27, in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Voicemail messages will be answered on Monday, November 30.

WIC Program in Ignacio

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Program is a supplemental food and nutrition program for pregnant or postpartum women, infants, and children up to age five (5). WIC is conducting appointments over the phone. Go to www.coloradowicsignup.com to self-refer. La Plata County residents can call Durango WIC office (970-335-2026).

Ignacio Early Learning Program

Ignacio Early Learning Program has a few Colorado Preschool Program (CPP) funded spots open for children three to four years of age. For more information call 563-0681.

Sexual Assault Services Organization

SASO is looking for volunteers for our 24-hour Crisis Hotline and First Responder Training. For more information, please contact Emily (emily@durangosaso.org) or call 970-259-3074.

SASO will be holding their 3rd Annual Violence Against Native Women Symposium throughout the month of November. For more information, please contact Kelsey (kelsey@durangosaso.org) or call 970-563-0695 (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday), or visit www.fortlewis.edu/MMIW.

Free First Time Home Buyer Classes

HomesFund offers free first-time homebuyer education classes in La Plata County. You have the opportunity to qualify for Down-Payment Assistance Funds by attending one of these classes. To register, go to: <https://homesfund.org/attend-a-class>.

Energy Outreach Colorado

Your tax-deductible donation to Energy Outreach Colorado helps vulnerable Coloradans pay their home energy bills. To apply for energy assistance or to make a donation for families in need, please go to www.EnergyOutreach.org or call 866-HEAT-HELP (866-432-8435).

SoCoCAA Employment Opportunities

SoCoCAA Youth Services is HIRING for a Project Venture Program Coordinator and a Full Time Bus Driver for SoCoCAA / Bustang Outrider for Durango to Grand Jct. route. Details and applications are available online at www.sococaa.org. For more information call 970-563-4517. Both positions will remain open until filled.