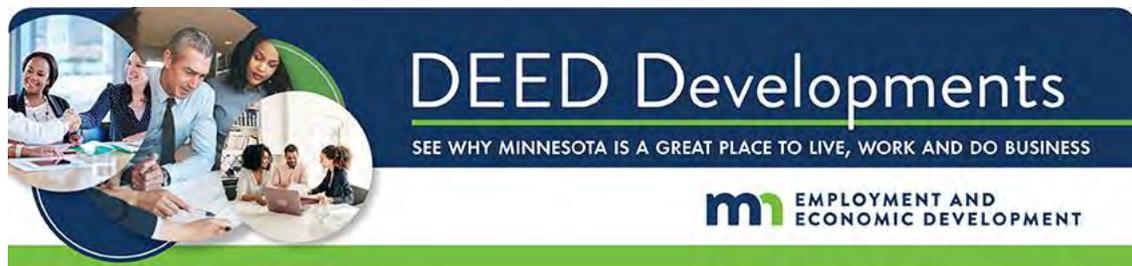




COVID-19 Special Edition - No. 9
May 1, 2020
Lakeville, Minnesota - Positioned to Thrive

This special edition of the Thrive! Business Newsletter is intended to provide information related to COVID-19 and a summary of the most up-to-date information your business needs to succeed in the wake of this pandemic.

These special edition newsletters will be distributed every Friday until they are no longer necessary.



Updates from the State of Minnesota

Stay at Home Order Extended to May 18

Yesterday [Governor Tim Walz extended the Stay at Home Order until Monday, May 18](#) (PDF), but starting May 4 retail businesses and other non-critical businesses may begin offering curbside pickup. Businesses must:

- Develop and publicly post a plan for how to open safely.
- Use online payment whenever possible.
- Employees and customers should wear masks and protective equipment.
- In curbside pickup scenarios, social distancing guidelines apply. If possible, customers should not leave their vehicle.
- In delivery scenarios, items should be deposited outside a customer's residence.

Minnesotans should also continue to telework whenever possible, wear face masks in public, screen for symptoms and regularly check their temperature, and maintain physical distance from each other.

Updates on the COVID-19 pandemic in Minnesota are available at mn.gov/covid19/ along with [frequently asked questions](#).

Social Distancing Survey

The MN Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) is seeking input on Minnesota's new "social distancing norms" should be once the Stay at Home Order is eventually lifted.

DEED's main goals are to help Minnesotans stay safe and healthy while enabling more social and economic activity. The survey is designed to identify trends across organizational categories rather than focusing on the views of one organization. Results will be anonymized as much as possible by removing survey comments that identify specific people or organizations.

[If you would like to submit feedback and ideas to DEED about how to implement social distancing practices in your workplace, we encourage you to submit them here.](#)

Unemployment Insurance Available for Self-Employed and Independent Contractors

This program, called Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA), provides weekly benefit payments, just like regular unemployment insurance (UI). It specifically provides benefits to people who would not be eligible for regular unemployment benefits, including:

- Self-employed people
- Independent contractors
- Workers in non-covered employment
- People lacking sufficient work history to get regular UI
- People living in a household where the head of household has died as a direct result of COVID-19

Visit uimn.org for information about how to apply, what happens once you apply and how you'll get paid if you are eligible. If you have already applied, look to receive information about PUA benefits in your online account, by email and by mail. If you have not applied for unemployment benefits yet, [special instructions for self-employed and 1099 workers are available here](#) (PDF). PUA benefits will be backdated to whenever you first became eligible due to COVID-19.

Visit the [COVID-19 Information for Employers and Businesses page](#) on the DEED website for more resources related to business assistance, Unemployment Insurance and FAQs.

Dakota County Waiving Property Tax Penalty Through July 15, 2020

Recognizing that property owners may be impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, April 28 approved a property tax penalty abatement for the first half of 2020 property taxes due on May 15. The penalty for late payment is waived through July 15, 2020.

The penalty relief applies to all non-escrowed residential, agricultural, vacant rural, open space, apartment, commercial and industrial property. Taxes paid through an escrow service and properties classified as utility, railroad, machinery and transmission lines are excluded from the waiver. Property owners who are able to pay their property taxes by the due date are encouraged to do so to help support county, school and city responses to COVID-19.



[Learn more on the Dakota County website.](#)

Panorama of Progress Scheduled for September 25-27, 2020

The Pan-O-Prog volunteer committee recently decided to bring the Lakeville community together for a scaled down festival on September 25, 26, and 27.

Although the Pan-O-Prog festival is normally held the week after July 4th every year, the COVID-19 pandemic influenced the committee's decision to push the dates out to later in the year. To stay up-to-date on the POP Festival, follow the group on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



April Building Permits Report

The City has issued building permits with a total valuation of \$116,177,158 through April. This compares to a total valuation of \$69,262,341 for building permits issued through April of 2019.

The City has issued 187 single-family home permits through April with a total valuation of \$56,600,000. This compares to 139 single-family home permits with a total valuation of \$43,303,000 during the same period in 2019.

The City issued 70 new single-family permits in the month of April compared to 44 permits issued in April of 2019. This resulted in an average of more than three new single-family home permits being issued every business day in April.

The City has also issued 29 townhome permits with a total valuation of \$6,486,000 through April, compared to 22 townhome permits with a total valuation of \$4,815,000 during the same period in 2019. The City has issued eight apartment permits through April totaling 200 units with a valuation of \$27,833,000.



According to Housing First Minnesota, the City of Lakeville issued the highest number of residential permits in the Twin Cities through April followed by Woodbury, Plymouth, Blaine and Otsego.

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