



Business Newsletter

Spring, 2020

A note from the Town

When the idea of a newsletter specifically for the Town of Dayton business community came up a few months ago, we had no idea the business environment would be changing so drastically. We hope that this newsletter serves as an important resource for you. Because the business environment is changing so rapidly, we want to encourage you to follow the organizations and agencies that are listed in this newsletter directly, as they are updating information on a regular basis and they have more expertise than the Town staff regarding each program.

The Town continues to monitor updates and adapt accordingly; however, most of the agencies and organizations that can help during an emergency declaration are at a level higher. Rest assured the Mayor, Town Council, and Staff understand the challenges businesses, and subsequently, employees, are facing and we are trying to assist as we can. We continue to post on Facebook, encouraging residents and followers to support local Dayton businesses as they are able, and to encourage them to follow your Facebook pages (where applicable), and contact your businesses directly. And, we are listening and understanding concerns.

All town employees are essential employees and are continuing to do their jobs accordingly, although with some changes to limit public exposure. Town offices are closed, but you can reach staff by phone or email. Police officers are continuing to patrol the Town and answer calls, but whenever possible, they will take reports and follow up by phone. Public works staff are still operating the water plant, maintaining our buildings and grounds, and answering calls for service, but are doing so with as little public contact as possible. The Treasurer's office is accepting payments and processing requests by phone. The zoning office is also handling requests by phone and email. Please refer to our website or Facebook page for updates and call the office for any needs.

Resources for Businesses

Harrisonburg-Rockingham COVID-19 Business Support Taskforce

The Shenandoah Valley Small Business Development Center, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Chamber of Commerce, Harrisonburg Economic Development, Rockingham County Economic Development, Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance and Shenandoah Valley Technology Council have created an emergency grant fund to aid small businesses that are being affected. The maximum grant amount is \$5,000.

Businesses eligible for a Harrisonburg-Rockingham Small Business Resilience Grant must meet the following requirements:

- Had 25 employees or fewer on March 1, 2020 (note: businesses with multiple regional locations are eligible).
- Must be in good standing with regard to state and local taxes and licenses.
- Must have been established and operational in Harrisonburg or Rockingham County for at least the previous 12 months. Businesses that have expanded to a storefront from another business are eligible (e.g., an established caterer who opened a restaurant or an online retailer who opened a boutique).
- Eligible uses of funds: payroll (exclusive of owner compensation), utilities, rent, mortgage payments, insurance, or similar expenses, and products directly used in production of a product for sale.

For more information and an application, and for future Task Force activities, please go to:

www.hrchamber.org/

Shenandoah Small Business Development Center (SVSBDC) The SV SBDC is an excellent resource throughout the year as it is dedicated to advising, training, and informing small businesses to help them achieve success. The Virginia SBDC Network is the most extensive business development program in the Commonwealth and part of America's SBDC - the nation's proven, cost-effective, and accredited infrastructure focused on small businesses - America's job creators.

They are also posting information on their website related to available resources during this crisis. Website: <https://www.valleysbdc.org/>

Small Business Administration

Information for each program listed below is updated regularly. Go to SBA.gov for more information.

- **Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program**
- **Other SBA Loans**
- **Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.** CARES Act and other legislation: Details are still being defined, but there are components in the Act specifically targeting small business.

U.S. Treasury Department

The Department of Treasury will provide advance funds to businesses so they can meet paid sick-leave requirements. Employers will be able to use cash deposited with the Internal Revenue Service to pay sick-leave wages. Learn more at: home.treasury.gov/

Tax Deadline Extension

The Department of Treasury and IRS have moved Tax Day from April 15, 2020 to July 15, 2020 for small and medium size businesses and individuals who need it.

Town of Dayton

Phone: 540-879-2241

Website: www.daytonva.us

Office hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Reminder: Town Hall is currently closed to the public.

Please call for an appointment or additional information.

Town Council meetings will be held remotely during this emergency. Please check the Town Facebook page and/or website for links and information.