



Gloucester Department of Community Engagement and Public Information

6382 Main Street
Gloucester, Va. 23061

804.693.5730 • www.gloucesterva.info

March 16, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Quinton Sheppard

qsheppard@gloucesterva.info

Gloucester cancels Daffodil Festival

Following Virginia Governor Ralph Northam's order to ban all events with 100 or more people, Gloucester County officials have announced that the 2020 Gloucester Daffodil Festival and all activities surrounding the annual event, which was scheduled for April 4-5, have been cancelled. The decision also comes after the Center for Disease Control has suggested that gatherings over 50 people be cancelled for the next eight weeks due to the widespread COVID-19 (Coronavirus).

"We fully support the Governor's decision, but it's not without heartache, as that means the annual Daffodil Festival must be cancelled," said Katey Legg, director of Gloucester's Parks, Recreation and Tourism department. "Many people may not know the extent of the planning that goes into this event, even after 34 years. Staff and countless volunteers, businesses and community partners work year-round to bring this much-anticipated festival to the community and tourists alike. Through sponsors, volunteers, community partners, vendors, and the citizens, the Daffodil Festival is the opening event for Spring that we look forward to each year. We are saddened not to be able to offer this much-loved event in 2020, but we will be right back at planning for March 27-28, 2021."

Legg added, "The Parks, Recreation and Tourism Department prides itself on providing an outlet for the community through recreation, activity, community events and the enhancement of quality of life. While schools are closed, programs and events are cancelled, our parks remain open in a limited capacity so that some semblance of normalcy can remain. We encourage folks to walk our trails, get outside, fish from the piers, and enjoy the fresh air, but please be mindful of appropriate social distancing and proper hygiene.

"We are blessed to live in such a community that rallies together to help one another in times of stress and adversity," Legg said. "We thank you for your continued support and we look forward to serving you in the future."

Those seeking more information are asked to contact Gloucester's Parks, Recreation and Tourism department at 804-693-2355 or e-mail klegg@gloucesterva.info.

