

**Etowah County Operations in response to COVID-19**

The Etowah County Commission, Probate Judge Scott Hassell, and Revenue Commissioner Linda Barrett-Vaughan have been working together to modify our existing safety plan in order to further protect the health and welfare of both the citizens of Etowah County and the employees that continue to serve those citizens on a daily basis. Our goal has been to try to maintain some sense of normalcy in an effort to reassure the public, while attempting to slow the spread of the virus through the use of recommended practices. County government will continue to operate, but on a more restricted basis. Effective Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, daily operations will consist of the following:

- The Courthouse will temporarily adhere to the following business hours:
  - Open to the public from 9 to 11am
  - Closed from 11am to 1pm for cleaning
  - Open to the public from 1 to 3pm
- Citizens may also call the appropriate department to schedule an appointment for business that cannot be conducted online. The telephone number for the Courthouse directory is 256-549-2152.
- Courthouse entry will be restricted to one location, which will be the handicap accessible entrance on the corner of the building nearest 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Exit must occur at that same point.
- Public access will be restricted to a total of 25 persons. Only the individual transacting business will be allowed in the building. In order not to exceed that number, security will sign persons in and out of the building.
- The following County facilities will not be accessible to the public, but may be contacted by telephone for further information:
  - Animal Shelter 256-494-5422
  - Engineering/Road Department/Fleet Maintenance 256-549-5358
  - Drug Enforcement Unit 256-549-5465
- Rural Transportation will restrict transport to medical, pharmacy, and other essential services. Call 256-547-1014 for details.
- Citizens are encouraged to visit [www.etowahcounty.org](http://www.etowahcounty.org) to conduct routine business.

We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we work to respond safely and effectively to this rapidly evolving situation.