



Cortland County Area Agency on Aging

County Office Building

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Elizabeth Haskins

Director

COVID-19 UPDATE:

THE CORTLAND COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

Agency staff can be reached at 753-5060.

7/30/20: The CCAAA has decided to discontinue this format of updates. Updates will be issued as they come.

7/29/20: No new updates at this time.

7/28/20: No new updates at this time.

7/27/20: No new updates at this time.

7/23/20: HEAP Cooling program continues through August 31st.

Farmers' Market Coupons distribution will continue next at the Cortland Farmers' Market Tuesday 7/28/20 from 9 AM to 11 AM.

7/17/20: No new updates at this time.

7/16/20: No new updates at this time.

7/15/20: No new updates at this time.

7/14/20: No new updates at this time.

7/13/20: No new updates at this time.

7/10/20: Per Cortland County Legislature, the Cortland County Senior Centers are to remain closed indefinitely.

7/9/20: No new updates at this time.

7/8/20: No new updates at this time.

7/7/20: Senior Farmers' Market Coupons are now being distributed! View our website online, <http://www.cortland-co.org/434/Area-Agency-on-Aging> or call us at 753-5060 to find your closest distribution site.

7/6/20: Join us and NYS Office of Aging Director, Greg Olsen for Wednesday's ZOOM Social Hour. Call 753-5060 today to sign up!

7/1/20: The Area Agency on Aging will be closed 7/3/20 in observance of Independence Day.

6/30/20: No new updates at this time.

6/29/20: HEAP deadlines have been extended to 8/31/2020, originally set to expire 6/30/20.

6/26/20: No new updates at this time.

6/25/20: No new updates at this time.

6/24/20: No new updates at this time.

6/23/20: No new updates at this time.

6/22/20: We have lined up some guest speakers for a couple of our upcoming Zoom Social hours: 1) Legislative Chairman, Paul Heider, July 1st, and New York State Office of Aging Director, Greg Olsen, July 8th. If you are interested in signing up, for our social hour or for a specific day, please contact mkemak@cortland-co.org.

6/19/20: No new updates at this time.

6/18/20: No new updates at this time.

6/17/20: Zoom Social Hour to be weekly at 10 AM on Wednesdays!

6/16/20: Our Caregivers' Resource Center is hosting a Zoom Call, Thursday 2/25 from 3-4 PM.

6/15/20: Zoom Social hour returns Wednesday, 6/17, at 10 AM.

6/11/20: No new updates at this time.

6/10/20: No new updates at this time.

6/9/20: No new updates at this time.

6/8/20: Zoom Social hour starts this Friday at 10 AM! Email mkemak@cortland-co.org to sign up today!

6/5/20: No new updates at this time.

6/4/20: No new updates at this time.

6/3/20: Cortland County Area Agency on Aging reveals new Pen Friend program, as an option to combat social isolation in area seniors. Anyone can participate as a Pen Friend. Contact the agency office at 753-5060 if you know someone that could benefit from the program, or want to write yourself!

6/2/20: The Rotary Spring Cleanup has officially been cancelled for the year due to COVID.

6/1/20: No new updates at this time.

5/28/20: Cortland County will start Stage 2 reopening. More info at www.cortland-co.org

5/27/20: No new updates at this time.

5/26/20: No new updates at this time.

5/22/20: The Cortland County Area Agency on Aging has been distributing care packages to our community. The care packages contain hand sanitizer, a face mask and agency information. To date we have distributed 1654 packages, with 735 to local townships, 163 to our Meals on Wheels clients, and 150 to faith based supports.

5/21/20: No new updates at this time.

5/20/20: No new updates at this time.

5/19/20: No new updates at this time.

5/18/20: No New updates at this time.

5/15/20: Phase 1 of Re-opening has started. Social distancing is still advised.

5/14/20: No new updates at this time.

5/13/20: Home Delivered Meals to resume regular pre-covid schedule starting Monday, 5/18/20.

5/12/20: No new updates at this time.

5/11/20: No new updates at this time.

5/8/20: The Cortland County AAA is now on Twitter and Instagram! Find us on twitter at <https://twitter.com/CortlandAAA> or @CortlandAAA! Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/cortlandaaa/>

5/7/20: No new updates at this time.

5/6/20: BUS ROUTES GO FARE FREE

Effective May 5, passengers can board routes 1-7 without paying their usual fares, according to Ryan Oakley, General Manager of First Transit.

5/5/20: No new updates at this time.

5/4/20: HEAP Cooling program is now accepting applications. If you have a medical condition that warrants the need of an air conditioner or a fan, and are income eligible, the HEAP program could help. Call 753-5060 for more details.

5/1/20: No new updates at this time.

4/30/20: No new updates at this time.

4/29/20: The Empire State Senior games have been postponed, not cancelled, at the current time.

View: <https://www.nyseniorgames.com/news> for more information about the games and the complete postponement news.

4/28/20: The Cortland County Area Agency on Aging has started to distribute care packages for all of its Home Delivered Meals clients. These packages include: Toilet paper, NYS issued hand sanitizer, NYS issued mask-with proper directions on how to correctly use them, and agency information/contacts.

4/27/20: SSI, Supplemental Security Income, stimulus payments to start in early May for those who haven't filed taxes in 2018 or 2019. For more information please visit: www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here

4/24/20: No new updates at this time.

4/23/20:

- Per the Cortland County Clerk, the Cortland Department of Motor Vehicles will be closing the drive through service. More details can be found here: <https://bit.ly/34YVrx2>
- The Senior News Newsletter is now online for April, May and June. You can find it direct here: <https://bit.ly/3bA6grJ>

4/22/20- Follow us on Social Media for great resource shares!
<https://www.facebook.com/CCAreaAgencyonAging/>

4/21/20: AARP has cancelled all Smart Driver classes through the month of June. AARP is giving a 25% discount for online classes until August 31. Visit www.aarpdriversafety.org and use code "drivingskills" for 25% off.

4/20/20: No new updates at this time.

4/17/20: New Scams are coming out daily. Check out our update here: <https://bit.ly/3agILCS>

4/16/20:

- NY PAUSE initiative continued until May 15th. Keep following Matilda's Law!
- New Scam Alert: People are getting messages via text stating that they are suspected of having COVID. DO NOT click links. More information can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2VD7eNr>

- Public has been ordered to wear facemasks in public when you cannot practice safe social distancing by the Governor, starting Friday 4/17 at 8 p.m. An example is you can walk without a mask, if no one is around, but a mask should be placed on when you come to a corner with other people around you.

04/15/20: No new updates at this time.

04/14/20: No new updates at this time.

4/13/20: SNAP additional payments to be issued for March and April for clients not receiving full maximum benefits. [on.ny.gov/3b8nwEn](https://www.on.ny.gov/3b8nwEn)

4/10/20: Just a reminder to stay social while distancing and check out our Facebook Page. <https://www.facebook.com/CCAreaAgencyonAging/> Today we have a link on how to make a no-sew mask. When on our site click follow to continue to receive our social media updates.

4/9/20: No new updates at this time.

4/8/20: The Cortland County Department of Social Services has worked with their Code Blue Warming Center partners, the Salvation Army and the Grace and Holy Spirit Church, to continue Warming Center operations through April 30, 2020 despite the temperatures soon rising to above 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

4/7/20: No new updates at this time.

4/6/20: NYS announces partnership with Headspace, where New Yorkers can get free meditation and mindfulness resources. www.headspace.com/ny

4/3/20: Scams are on the rise. The latest is a scam on home repairs and government grants. <https://aging.ny.gov/news/new-york-state-office-aging-issues-guidance-against-government-grant-scams?fbclid=IwAR2mKiLAo3TWjHMpTVH-K1HMYngZzsTtAISqDu7oD8NJrbmhppfPKBP0Zoo>

4/2/20: Seniors will receive stimulus package without the need for tax filing per the Treasury Department. <https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm967>

4/1/20: Social Security Administration states that payments will continue as scheduled.

3/31/20: Although not directly affiliated with the AAA—All AARP driver's safety classes are cancelled through 5/31/20.

3/30/20: No new updates at this time.

3/27/20:

- There has been repeated FRAUD attempts and Scams Due to Covid-19.

Here are a couple of links from the Senior Medicare Patrol.

- <https://www.cortland-co.org/DocumentCenter/View/7677/COVID-19-Consumer-Alert> An Alert
- <https://www.cortland-co.org/DocumentCenter/View/7678/COVID-19-Consumer-Tipsheet> Tipsheet

3/26/20:

- The AAA would like to remind everyone that we are still open and available to answer any questions or concerns to our residents by phone, as no in person appointments can occur at this time.
- We continue to post useful updates/shares on our Facebook page, and encourage you to visit (and like us) at <https://www.facebook.com/CCAreaAgencyonAging/>

3/25/20: No new updates as of today's date.

3/24/20: No new updates as of today's date.

3/23/20:

- Per NYS, Matilda's law took effect 3/22/20. Please read below from the Governor Andrew Cuomo:

"I call it Matilda's Law. My mother's name is Matilda. Everybody's mother, father, sister, friend in a vulnerable population—this is about protecting them. What you do highly, highly affects their health and wellbeing."

— Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo

Matilda's Law goes into effect at 8 p.m. on Sunday.

Matilda's Law is part of New York's PAUSE initiative to stymie the coronavirus, especially for the vulnerable populations. The major points include:

- Do not report to work
- Only leave home for necessities like medicine, food, gas, etc.
- Maintain six feet distance from others
- Restaurants and bars are takeout and delivery only, no dining in

3/19/20:

- Cortland County Area Agency on Aging Staff has been reduced per NYS Regulations. Employees are working remotely at home and at the office. Continue to call for assistance using agency phone: 753-5060.
- NYS COVID-19 Hotline # 1-888-364-3086
- Home Delivered Meals (HDM)/Meals on Wheels (MOW) deliveries to be twice a week starting Monday, 3/23.

3/18/20:

- No positive cases reported by Cortland County Health Department. Health Department advises clients to go to https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/county-county-breakdown-positive-cases?fbclid=IwAR0DyzWWrD381OkQ8D2dUCsJwdlh3AOjOIHSFQFctaA9G8tN_EyCh3BmUTc for daily updates.

3/17/20:

- ALL visitors to the County Office Building must report through the gymnasium for screening. Main entrance for employees only.
- Social Security offices will only offer phone service.
- Adult day health care programs to immediately suspend all adult day health care program service until further notice.

3/16/2020:

- Senior Centers are closed starting 3/17/2020.
- NO Home Visits or Office visits are permitted.
- National Grid to continue to provide energy to clients with a termination
- NYSEG to work with clients on services if terminated.
- MOW to continue service on adjusted schedule.