



June 23, 2020

Dear Residents and Team Members,

We are happy to report that we remain COVID free across all of the Loomis Communities at this time! Please don't mistake that for "Coronavirus is gone." It is still here, lurking around our towns, state, country, and the world.

For this reason we want to remind you that, absent a vaccine, not being exposed to the virus is our best line of defense in keeping ourselves safe from the virus.

Masks are one of the most important and effective defenses we have until there is a vaccine. In fact we need to think of masks as our "interim vaccine" against COVID-19 until the real thing is ready, hopefully sometime next year.

Increasing evidence shows that if 80 percent of us wore masks consistently, total infections could be reduced by over 90 percent. Additional studies have found that masks, in addition to social distancing and hand washing, are highly effective at reducing coronavirus infection. And the recent example of a hair salon in Missouri where two stylists infected with COVID-19 cut the hair of 140 clients further reinforces the importance of masks. All wore masks and none of the clients became sick.

Masks work only if we wear them correctly. Pulling the mask up and down, letting it droop below your nose, holding it in your hand, or dangling it around your neck, render the masks ineffective and could increase your risk of infection.

We are not helpless in the face of this virus. We know much more now than we did in April about where COVID-19 is spreading and how. The shape of the second wave will be the direct product of our collective actions. We have the power to decide how we want this pandemic to end — either in triumph or in disaster.

We can also make a difference by reinforcing responsible behavior. Speak out if masks and social distancing are not being respected by those around you, but please do so kindly.

Thank you for all you have been doing to support our efforts during this challenging time.

With appreciation,

Margaret Mantoni, CEO
Robert Claflin, Executive Director, Applewood
Craig Johnsen, Executive Director, LLRL
Maureen O'Toole, Executive Director, Loomis Village
John Armstrong, Applewood resident
Nancy Eddy, Applewood resident
Carolyn Hoyt, Loomis Village resident
Dan Marx, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident
Ann McIntosh, Loomis Lakeside at Reeds Landing resident
Janet Veitch, Loomis Village resident