



PO BOX 305, ROUTE 135, GOULDSBORO, PA 18424

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**March 26, 2020**

**(A message from Paul DiVirgilio, President and the Eagle Lake Board of Directors)**

Dear Fellow Community Member,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank our members for their cooperation and attentiveness to management's email and telephone communications. The world has significantly changed its course since early January and it will be highly likely that the new "normal" will be influenced by the previous two (2) months and several months to come.

The moratorium on access to Eagle Lake originates in the Pennsylvania mandate that RV Parks (unless residential) are to cease activities and deny access to the Park until further notice. The local governmental jurisdictions (Township and County) are charged with enforcement of the statewide mandates in order to qualify for any financial relief that may be available to the jurisdictions in the future when the pandemic is over. Therefore, on March 20, 2020 at approximately 3:00 PM, the Eagle Lake Community Association was notified by hand delivered notice from Covington Township, PA, requesting that we impose an immediate moratorium on activities and access to the Eagle Lake Community due to the spreading of COVID-19. The letter may be read on our website at [www.eaglelakeca.com](http://www.eaglelakeca.com).

On Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 10:00 AM in the morning, Eagle Lake Executive Staff was able to reach to the Governor's office and PA Department of Community and Economic Development (PADCED) and was transferred to the Pennsylvania Health Department which is overseeing the mandates at this time. They were able to review the specific mandate with the Department and after review were advised that the RV Park mandate did in fact apply to Eagle Lake at this time. They were advised to review the mandates daily as the mandate's are fluid and there will be modifications daily (which there have been as it relates to professional office closures, etc.) Upon conclusion of the telephone call with the Department, Executive Staff then completed an online waiver asking the Department to lift the RV Park access mandate and permit staffing on a reduced basis. At approximately 12:07 PM on March 21, 2020, Executive Staff received confirmation that the Department had received the waiver request and that we would be advised once reviewed. On March 23, 2020 at 2:25 AM, Executive Staff received an exemption for staff to provide essential services to the Community but there was no response to opening the Community to the members which we asked for another review. We will wait another 24 hours before filing a second waiver request if we do not receive an update to the initial review.

Probably the most significant question on our Community Members mind is why did the mandate affect Eagle Lake? Aren't we a residential Community? The fact is, we are not. When Eagle Lake was first presented to the Township in the early planning stages (late 1970's), it was agreed to create a new zoning jurisdiction for the proposed development. Therefore, the "recreational and manufacturing zone" was created which has allowed The Eagle Lake Recreation Campground to be created as well as the Industrial Park next door.

The Recreational Zoning requirements are reflected in everyone's deed in the form of deed restrictions, either written or referred to. The zoning does not permit any "permanent residency" in the zoned areas. And, it can be positively argued that this specific zoning is what has made Eagle Lake a very successful recreational campground (yes, we did have tents and travelers trailers at one time) and now Park Model Home Community. Unfortunately, it could also be argued that it has impacted our continued use and enjoyment during the pandemic.

So where do we go from here? Like all of us, we are subject to the Federal and State mandates imposed on us in our particular states. Currently, there are ten (10) states (and climbing) with either "stay at home or shelter in place requirements". Additionally, our neighboring Monroe County residents, (Mt. Pocono) are under state mandate to "stay at home". Most businesses have had to close. And today, we are hearing of reports citing there are several cases in our local municipalities. In Pennsylvania, the PA state police have initiated vehicle stops to be sure that operators are either performing an essential service, going to buy groceries or seeking refills on medication at a pharmacy. And nationally, we are hearing similar stories from our fellow private communities around the country.

Eagle Lake Administration Staff are either working remotely or on site using a rotation basis. The same is true with our Financial Accounting Department. Our Field Staff continue to attend to the water, sewer and electric utilities which we are permitted to do under the mandate waiver. On site staff must carry a letter with the designation of their "essential service" status to allow them to go to or from work. Preparations continue for the seasonal opening of the facilities and amenities. Executive Staff conduct staff meetings electronically to report progress and to report on any new updates affecting operations. The Executive Staff remain on site to directly oversee operations and projects despite having the option to work from home as much as possible.

As it relates to access at Eagle Lake in the near future. We shall await the decision from the Department, and if negative, once again review with our Attorneys and follow their advice. The hope is that the COVID-19 is under control soon and the waiver is approved (possibly with conditions) so all travel bans are lifted and we can continue to prepare for seasonal opening. However, we must still be cognizant of the fact, that travel to Eagle Lake may or would violate your state, County or Township mandates and also pass a risk to Eagle Lake owners or staff if our owners are carrying the COVID-19.

Again, we thank you for your cooperation. Please watch for further email blast updates from Eagle Lake Management. Lastly, we urge all of our property owners to abide by the CDC guidelines, travel restrictions and common sense.

Sincerely,

Paul DiVirgilio, President  
Fred Scalera, Vice- President  
Jeanne Sesack, Secretary  
Joseph Schroeder, Assistant Treasurer  
Nicholas Marrano, Member  
Clifford Golub, Member  
Ralph Serpe, Member