



Special COVID-19 Edition

March 30, 2020

[Online Version at FloridaBusiness.org](https://www.floridabusiness.org)

VOLUSIA COUNTY COVID-19 PUBLIC INFORMATION NETWORK – Stay up to date with COVID-19 related news and emergency information via Volusia County's [public information network](#). The webpage includes links to local municipalities, agencies, the CDC, Florida Department of Health, schools and colleges. It also features Volusia County news releases and FAQs, along with information about assistance programs and resources, beach safety, coastal and county parks, cancellations and closures, and virtual education and entertainment resources.

IRS COVID-19 TAX RELIEF – The IRS has established a special section of its website to help taxpayers, businesses and others affected by the coronavirus. The webpage will be updated as new information becomes available. Among others, updates include the U.S. Treasury and IRS having [extended filing deadlines to July 15 and federal tax payments](#) regardless of amount. In addition, the U.S. Treasury, IRS and U.S. Department of Labor announced that [small and midsize employers can begin taking advantage of two new refundable payroll tax credits](#) designed to immediately and fully reimburse employers, dollar-for-dollar, for the cost of providing coronavirus-related leave to their employees.

CDC OFFERS COVID-19 RELATED GUIDANCE ON MAINTAINING HEALTHY BUSINESS OPERATIONS – In addition to health care guidance, the CDC provides implementable [guidance concerning non-health care settings such as business and workplace environments](#). This includes guidance on maintaining healthy business operations, addressing such areas as identifying a COVID-19 workplace coordinator, implementing flexible sick leave and other supportive policies and practices, identifying essential business functions and practices, response plans for absenteeism spikes, and establishing social distancing practices.

DAYTONA STATE COLLEGE OFFERS FREE WEBINAR ON ENHANCING WORKFORCE RESILIENCE DURING COVID-19 – Join the conversation to explore how you can strengthen your workforce's resilience, ensuring success in managing change and uncertainty. The free webinar is provided by the Center for Business and Industry at Daytona State College. Presenter Debbie Featherston, the principle consultant for Workplace Partners, LLC, brings more than 20 years of experience in change and agility, partnering with large global companies and small organizations. Learn the critical elements needed to gauge team resilience, discuss challenges and opportunities of working during the uncertainty of COVID-19, and leave with actionable strategies to successfully navigate change and manage stress. The webinars will be offered daily from noon to 1 p.m. March 30, 31 and April 1; and from 3 to 4 p.m. April 1 and 2. [Join the meeting](#) and enter meeting ID 882 886 4777.

PROTECT PRIVACY ON VIRTUAL MEETINGS – Now more than ever, conference calls and virtual meetings are a constant of the modern workplace. While many of us have become security conscious in our online interactions, virtual meeting security is often an afterthought. Who hasn't been finishing one call when attendees of the next call start joining – because the access code is the same? Most virtual meeting services have built-in security features, and many providers will give you some basic security suggestions. [Regardless of your provider, here are a few simple options for holding a secure virtual meeting](#). Additional resources to assist employees and businesses with telework cybersecurity are available at <https://csrc.nist.gov/>.

GROWFL LAUNCHES COVID-19 VIRTUAL CEO ROUNDTABLES FOR SECOND-STAGE BUSINESSES – Through a partnership with the Edward Lowe Foundation, GrowFL has launched a [Virtual Roundtable program](#) that will enable second-stage business owners to meet from April through June to help navigate the COVID-19 crisis through peer-to-peer collaboration. The roundtables leverage a proven set of protocols, giving participants a convenient — and confidential — place to delve into their most pressing issues. Leaders are suddenly faced with such unexpected challenges as: what can be done to avoid layoffs; motivating employees who are now telecommuting (many for the first time); when moving the business forward, how to avoid looking like we are taking advantage; and how to avoid feelings of isolation when running the business, especially when holed up at home. To learn more, contact [Tammy Sweet](#) or [register to participate](#).

TAKE TIME TO RESPOND TO CENSUS 2020 – The federal government response plan to the COVID-19 pandemic includes financial support to state and local governments, some of which will be based on population. Updating community population levels has become more significant than ever. By now, all Volusia County residents should have received their invitation to respond to the 2020 Census. There is no better time to [complete this important questionnaire](#) with many residents self-quarantining due to COVID-19. The census is so important that responses are required by law. Results from the 2020 Census will be used to direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads and other public services; help your community prepare to meet transportation and emergency readiness needs; and determine your political representation at all levels of government. Responses are due by April 1.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! – Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley at JMagley@Volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.