



March 27, 2020

To Our Residents and Their Families and Friends:

The purpose of this update is to make you aware of recent information relating to COVID-19 in and around Charlottesville and additional safety measures introduced at Branchlands since our last letter. As this is being written, according to local government representatives, 9 cases of the new Corona Virus have been reported in Charlottesville, and 6 cases in Albemarle County, one of which was at an assisted living community in Crozet.

As new information involving the COVID-19 pandemic becomes available to us, including recommendations by the CDC and others, we review existing preventative measures and may implement additional ones. For now:

- As you are aware, visits to Branchlands by family members, friends, and non-essential personnel are severely restricted. We know this is incredibly difficult for you and, in very limited circumstances, exceptions may be made as follows:
 - The Executive Director will consider permitting entry on a case by case basis for (A) essential caregivers such as private duty nurses and hospice, and (B) compassionate care situations.
 - In order to consider permitting entry under (A) or (B), the person must enter the Manor House at the main entrance and be screened and cleared by the Executive Director or his designee (the “ED”).
 - If the person has contacted (by telephone or email) the ED in advance to request permission under (A) or (B), he or she may be allowed to enter after business hours if the is ED is not then available provided the person does all of the following:
 - enters the Manor House at the main entrance or Sargent House or Holtrust House at one of the public entrances
 - fills in (including temperature) and signs the screening form at whichever public entrance is used
 - certifies that the answers to all 3 questions on the screening form are “NO”
 - If these procedures are not followed, we will have to revoke them

- Only essential shuttle bus trips are being made at this time. This includes doctor and dentist visits and grocery shopping trips. We are also limiting the number of people allowed on the Branchlands bus at one time to ensure the 6-foot social distancing protocol is observed. We ask all residents to sign up for the scheduled daily shopping trips so we can properly plan for any extra bus runs if necessary.

You can still go outside with social distancing!

As the weather gets warmer, we are encouraging residents to spend some time outside. This is a great time to go for walks or sit on your patio or the front porch of the Manor House and be with each other or visitors, as long as you maintain a 6-foot distance from one another. Experts have said that the mental health benefits of being outdoors can help alleviate the anxiety caused by this pandemic. With many of us stuck inside for the foreseeable future, breathing fresh air, soaking up Vitamin D, and going for a walk can help us stay active and healthy during this time and perhaps build natural defenses.

We also encourage all residents to call and check in on their friends, play games online, join an online discussion group or book club. If you feel like having a chat, feel free to call me, Karsyn, Mary Ann, Lisa or Jon.

For the latest information regarding COVID-19, the best place to go is the CDC's coronavirus information [page](#) or situation summary [page](#).

Always be safe. Please be kind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Stovall", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

James "Scoot" Stovall
Executive Director