

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



UPDATE from the City Manager for Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Governor Sununu's "Stay At Home" order through June 15, 2020 with additional flex announced. For the full details on the Governor's Executive Orders, click here: <http://www.nh.gov/covid19>

COMBINED LIST OF OUTDOOR DINING & TAKEOUT RESTAURANTS – For the list of restaurants offering takeout and/or that have received approval for various outdoor dining arrangements, click here. **Please note that not all plan to open immediately. Always check first, as many have specific reservations requirements.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/restaurants-takeout-outdoor-dining>

INDOOR DINING GUIDANCE FROM HEALTH DEPARTMENT -- The Governor's Stay-at-Home 2.0 offers updated guidance to restaurants for opening up indoor dining operations beginning June 15, 2020. This new [Guidance document](https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt381/files/files/inline-documents/guidance-restaurants.pdf) <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt381/files/files/inline-documents/guidance-restaurants.pdf>

applies to the indoor dining in Rockingham County, at a reduced occupancy. The Health Department notes, "Please be aware there may be an increased risk of exposure to Covid-19 associated with public dining for your staff and your customers. Strict adherence to the Guidelines should help reduce this risk but may not eliminate it." Table spacing (both indoors and outdoors) should be maintained so people sitting at adjacent tables are more than six feet apart and servers should be able to maintain social distancing while interacting with tables. Seating guidelines showing different table styles and arrangements are posted in the Health Department web page, [here](#). To streamline the process, prior to re-opening, all establishments must submit a completed re-opening Checklist and adjusted seating floor plans for approval, electronically via [Viewpoint](#). (Select Covid-19 Reduced Indoor Seating Approval from the Health Department page on Viewpoint.)

CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE MEETS. NEW WEBPAGE CREATED – The Citizen Response Task Force designed by the City Council to help move Portsmouth forward with reopening plans and adjustments has met twice this week. The 19-member committee representing restaurants, retail, hotels, small business, nonprofits, health care and citizens-at-large has selected two co-chairs: Jim Petersen of Petersen Engineering and Mark Stebbins of ProCon Construction and has begun to discuss the goals it was charged with and plans and ideas circulating in the City. A new web page, <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/citizen-response-task-force> provides information and resources the committee is using. All meetings are conducted publicly via zoom and are posted in advance on the City website homepage. To contact the Citizen Response Task Force, email via hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

- **NH NONPROFIT EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS THURSDAY, WEBINAR at 1 pm** -- Application period opens and NH Center for Nonprofits hosts a webinar to answer questions about the grant program. 1:00-2:00 pm. Click here to register. <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/3312333062115704588> The New Hampshire Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund was established by Governor Chris Sununu through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to award grants from the allocated \$60 million to help nonprofit organizations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The New Hampshire Center for Nonprofits, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, and the New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority, have partnered to administer this program.

Eligibility:

- The organization must be a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit based in New Hampshire.
- The organization must demonstrate that it incurred or will incur necessary expenditures and/or losses due to the COVID-19 public health emergency between March 1 and December 30, 2020.
- Costs or losses cannot be covered by this program if they have been, or will be paid, by other federal emergency relief funds, including the Paycheck Protection Program.
- The program will not make grants to nonprofit hospitals, colleges and universities, and other organizations that are or will be assisted through other funding opportunities. The New Hampshire Nonprofit Emergency Relief Fund is not a first come, first served program. Additional program details are forthcoming. Questions will be answered starting June 11, 2020 at the webinars listed below.

Starting immediately, 501(c)(3) nonprofits should complete the required organizational profile, click here for the online portal. https://nhcf.smartsimple.com/s_Login.jsp

Monday, June 15 -- The NH Center for Nonprofits will host a webinar to answer questions about the grant program. 4-5 pm. Register here: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7882796190594518284>

Thursday, June 25 -- Application period closes.

- **NEW SCHOOL LUNCH PICKUP SCHEDULE HAS STARTED** – Click here. https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vRPbZHtMsRYoTB4q5wchJEBaz_4vL6CxJjvb_KXj7o4el_bZB7e5noyNb8sVAa7YtHFUeEIHTm13efc/pub
- **CITY HALL NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** -- City Hall is limited to 50 percent occupancy. Walk-ins are greeted at the front door, with new protocols in place, which include:
 - Visitors are required to wear a cloth mask while in City Hall. Masks are provided if the visitor does not bring one.
 - If the department the visitor wants to visit is already at capacity, that person will be asked to wait in a physical-distancing queue in the Portsmouth Room, adjacent to City Council Chambers. City Hall hours are as follows: Mon 8 am - 6 pm; Tues-Thurs 8 am - 4:30 pm; Fri 8 am - 1 pm. NOTE: City Council, Board and Commission meetings continue as virtual meetings.
- **PARKING CLERK SERVICES HAVE MOVED TO FOUNDRY PLACE GARAGE** – For more information, visit <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parkportsmouth>
- **PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY CURBSIDE PICKUP BEGINS** -- Please click here <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/curbside> for more information and guidelines.
- **FACE MASK DRIVE CONTINUES! Drop-off or Pick-up Donations of Cloth Masks for Seniors: Thurs June 11, 1-2 pm** – At the Community Campus tennis court parking lot. Drive up and leave the masks in the box. If you need a cloth face mask, homemade masks can be mailed to those who could not attend the Distribution Drives. Please email or call Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Manager, and she will mail you a mask. 603-767-2697. bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com

200 SIGN-UPS ON THE FIRST DAY! PORTSMOUTH RECREATION DEPARTMENT BOUTIQUE PROGRAMS FOR KIDS -- The Portsmouth Recreation Department will be offering a session of boutique programs this summer. Each program will run twice a week for six weeks, with a specific focus that allows for maximum social distancing. The programs are for Portsmouth residents only and are free of charge. Children will be kept in pods of eight, with a maximum of four pods per program. Physical distancing and hand sanitizing procedures will be in place, along with encouraging use of masks by participants. The programs include hiking and running clubs, multi-sport, kids' fitness, arts & crafts, Legos and more. Click here for the full program listing and schedule. www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation

PORTSMOUTH FARMERS MARKET HAS RETURNED! SATURDAYS 8 am to 12 noon -- Seacoast Growers' Association beloved Portsmouth Farmers' Market returns every Saturday **at Little Harbour School on Clough Drive. PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO PARKING on Haven, Bracket Road and Bracket Lane (the residential side streets around Little Harbour School). Parking ONLY in the school parking lot and the lower lot** (corner of South St. & Junkins Ave) at City Hall. For more information, click here. https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.seacoastgrowers.org%2fportsmouth-farmers-market&c=E.1.HUXuFF5Eu6xltBbExsp_P88RTPnZ-HjTbk_F4x4cs9tRLB56MqPqzerfKgTBm-tCuNuy0fcGzr1jI00kfoSnNfuomIQyOff7fGuz4S0zOw,,&typo=1

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

CHAMBER CHAT LIVE, “HR Insights for Changing Times,” 1 pm. Join Chamber Collaborative President Valerie Rochon and her guests:

- Amy Cann SHRM-SCP, SMS, Managing Partner, HR ROI in Portsmouth. As we brings some employees back to work and hire and train new staff, we need to address the big issues and questions for employers right now, such as return to work and screening questions as well as privacy and EEOC concerns.
- Jermaine Moore with The Mars Hill Group will speak to the issues of diversity and inclusion in the workplace, in light of recent events with the protests and violence against people of color.

To register for this free zoom discussion, click here.

<http://portsmouthcollaborative.org/events/details/chamber-chat-live-hr-insights-for-changing-times-52181?calendarMonth=2020-06-01>

DEADLINE FOR FILING PERIOD FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICTS 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 & 31 -- Please note that the City Clerk's Office closes at 1 pm on Friday, June 12th, but will also be open between the hours of 3-5 pm only to accept filings, as required by State RSA. Filings for Delegates to the State Republican Convention will also be accepted during this filing period. Those wishing to file must be a registered voter in the district and party for which they wish to be a candidate.

- District 25 - Consists of Ward 1 only
- District 26 - Consists of Ward 2 only
- District 27 - Consists of Ward 3 only
- District 28 - Consists of Ward 4 only
- District 29 - Consists of Ward 5 only
- District 30 - Consists of Ward 1, 2, 4, and 5 (Not 3)
- District 31 - Floterial with Ward 3 only represented with Greenland, Newington & North Hampton. Note: A floterial district is a legislative district that includes several separate districts that independently would not be entitled to additional representation, but whose combined population entitles the area to another seat in the legislative body.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY A SUCCESS! On Saturday, June 6, 280 residents of Portsmouth, Greenland and Newington came through the Department of Public Works facility for one of the City's bi-annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day events. DPW staff and the members of the water quality team helped prepare for, set up and assist with the event. Some of the 280 vehicles who came through started lining up an hour prior to the start of the event and patiently waited in a long line to drop off materials including used oil, gasoline, antifreeze, drain cleaners, pesticides, leftover oil-based paints and solvents. As you clean out basements and garages remember when you find you have household hazardous waste or a questionable liquid, you put it aside in a safe place and bring it to our next household hazardous waste day in October. Do not dump these liquids down a drain, in a toilet or to throw them in the regular trash as they will find their way into our watershed, if they are not properly isolated. By participating in Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, you do your part to keep these hazards out of landfills and out of the beautiful waters of our coastal communities. For additional information to help identify what is considered hazardous household waste and its environmental impacts, please visit the public works website at: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

DISPOSAL OF USED FACEMASKS, GLOVES, ETC. -- Please be aware that used facemasks, gloves and cleaning towels should be disposed of in a trash container that is lined with a bag. Please do not put them in recycle bins. Also please do not flush wipes (even those marked 'flushable') as they tend to clog pipes, especially smaller diameter pipes from homes to sewer pipes or septic systems.

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK. For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

- **PEIRCE ISLAND BRIDGE ROAD CONSTRUCTION FRIDAY, JUNE 12 --** Work related to the inspection of the sewer force main on the Pierce Island Road Bridge will limit travel to a single lane of alternating one-way travel between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm. Flaggers will be placed on either end of the bridge to control traffic. The pedestrian sidewalk will be closed during this time, but pedestrians will be accommodated during the work. Vehicles traveling to and from Peirce Island should expect minor delays.
- **WATER LINE FLUSHING --** The Water Division has begun the twice-annual, routine flushing of the City's fire hydrants and 190 miles of water mains to remove sediment buildup. The work is ongoing, Monday

through Thursday, between 7 and 11 pm for the next 3 weeks. The flushing operation covers both public and private hydrants in Portsmouth, New Castle, Rye, Greenland and Newington. Crews open select fire hydrants, releasing water with enough velocity to carry sediment out of the pipes. While flushing can result in discolorations to tap water, customers can use cold water to flush their lines and the water remains safe to drink. If the discoloration persists, customers should contact the Water Division through the [Click 'n Fix](#) system to ensure prompt response.

- **ISLINGTON STREET** -- Detour is in place for one-way, inbound/easterly traffic between the bridge over the Bypass to Aldrich Road and outbound/westerly traffic, detoured down Aldrich. For map, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/islington-street-corridor-reconstruction-project>
- **MARKET STREET & KEARSARGE WAY BRIDGES:** Final landscaping and other details are being completed on the Market Street gateway park. Kearsarge Way Bridge is being reduced to one lane, with alternating traffic directed by temporary traffic signals. Market Street between the Sarah Long Bridge and the Noble's Island traffic signal is being reduced to one lane in each direction. For the full presentation on the project, click here. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBTsRp4Pemo>
- **CORPORATE DRIVE AT PEASE:** Road work this week.
- **DEER STREET/BRIDGE STREET:** Water and sewer pipe work nearing completion.
- **SIDE STREETS OFF PLEASANT:** Affecting Richmond and Livermore. Equipment staged, as before, on Edmunds.
- **MAPLEWOOD AVE DETOUR NOW IN PLACE.** Click here for details. Work has resumed for the season. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-05/2020-05-18%20-%20Maplewood%20Detour.pdf>
- **PRESCOTT PARK DOCK RAILING replacement work continues.** The dock remains closed.

TESTING: The NH Department of Health & Human Services is now coordinating COVID-19 testing appointments at one of the several testing clinics established throughout the state, for anyone who calls. **That testing coordinating office phone number is 603-271-5980. CVS on Lafayette Road in Hampton is now also accepting appointments for testing.** For FAQs about testing in New Hampshire, click here. <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/resources-guidance/testing-guidance.htm> In addition, the Rite-Aid at 1390 Lafayette Road in Portsmouth is providing free by-appointment testing for COVID-19 to anyone age 18 or over. For more information, click here. <https://www.riteaid.com/pharmacy/services/covid-19-testing>

DONATE TO ClipperStrong.org – Click here to make a Clipper Strong Fund tax deductible donation to support Portsmouth's small businesses. **Donations by check may be mailed to the Clipper Strong Fund c/o Coastal Economic Development Corporation, 4 Merrill Industrial Drive, Suite 201, Hampton NH 03842.** <https://www.clipperstrong.org>

Instead of repeating the long list of COVID-related resources each day, you can now find them all collected on one City website page! Click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-resources>

Sign up for the Daily Advisory, [here](#). The latest news is always at the top, **in red**.

STAY SAFE! STAY AT HOME! DO NOT CONGREGATE

For answers to other questions about the City's response to COVID-19, please email: hotline@cityofportsmouth.com

For more information, visit [City's page on COVID-19](#).