

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



UPDATE from the City Manager for Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Do Your Part – Wear a Mask



Strawbery Banke Museum reopened today with an “Emerging Renewed” tour welcoming visitors to the 10-acre campus and gardens with interpreters and roleplayers in the open air. All visitors and staff are required to wear masks, just as “Mrs. Holt” (Nancy Wason) is doing in her 1943 Victory Garden.

BEHIND ON RENT OR MORTGAGE PAYMENTS DUE TO COVID-19? -- The Governor’s Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery has announced the **New Hampshire Housing Relief Program, an initiative designed to keep people from losing their housing and to secure or maintain permanent housing in partnership with the Community Action Partnership for NH (CAPNH). Applications are available NOW.** To contact CAPNH, click here or call 2-1-1 from any NH phone. <http://www.capnh.com>

SELF-EMPLOYED LIVELIHOOD FUND (SELF) APPLICATIONS OPEN JULY 6 -- The Self-Employment Livelihood Fund will be capped at \$50,000 for qualifying business people. **Applications will be accepted from July 6 to July 17 from those meeting the following criteria:**

- self-employed businesses must be located in New Hampshire,
- the owners must be the only employees, and it must be a for-profit business,
- the business cannot be permanently closed - not including temporary closure due to COVID-19;
- it cannot be in bankruptcy,
- the business must have had gross receipts in 2019 of less than \$1 million.

For more information, click here. <https://www.goferr.nh.gov/covid-expenditures/new-hampshire-self-employed-livelihood-fund-self>

CLIPPER STRONG FUND -- Small businesses who would like to receive a Clipper Strong Fund Care Package (containing disposable face masks, signage asking customers to wear masks and a touchless thermometer) should send an email with the name of the business, location, phone and email contact to hotline@cityofportsmouth.com Donations still welcome! Click here to make a donation online at ClipperStrong.org <https://www.clipperstrong.org>

TODAY, JULY 1

- **HOLIDAY TRASH COLLECTION -- Trash collection on THURSDAY for those with normal pickup on Friday, due to the July 4th holiday.**
- **NEW BULKY WASTE DISPOSAL FEES** – The fees charged for bulky waste disposal are as follows: \$5 for each box spring, clothes dryer, clothes washer, dishwasher, mattress, propane tank (20# or more), tire or piece of upholstered furniture; \$10 for each cooking range or piece of electronic equipment; and \$20 for each refrigerator or item containing Freon. For curbside collection there is a pick up fee of \$5 in addition to the fees per bulky waste item collected. Curbside customers must schedule the curbside pickup of their bulky waste with DPW in advance and should not place the waste curbside without scheduling a collection. To schedule curbside bulky waste collection, please call (603) 427-1530. For more information, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/solid-waste-recycling/waste-collection-schedule>
- **NEW PARKING FEES** – With the start of a new Fiscal Year for the City, ParkPortsmouth announces new fees for Hanover and Foundry Place garages. For more information, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/press-releases/new-fiscal-year-brings-parking-changes-july-1>
- **REOPENING PORTSMOUTH PROJECT LANE ADJUSTMENT** – Partial street closures are now in effect on Penhallow and Market Street in front of Portsmouth Brewery, in addition to Pleasant (between Court and State), Market (opposite Commercial Alley) and the Worth Lot parking spaces close to the Congress Street-side buildings.
- **HANOVER ST./TANNER/PARKER ST. PAVING** -- Pavement milling (removal of top layer only) continues on Tanner, Parker & Tanner Court to get ready for paving the entire area on Tuesday, July 7, weather permitting. Striping will follow a few days after paving.
- **PORTSMOUTH WATER SUPPLY STATUS REPORT** -- Due to the dry weather and below normal precipitation in May and most of June, the U.S. Drought Monitor elevated the southern half of the state to “Moderate Drought” conditions as of June 23, 2020. However, on June 30th Portsmouth received three inches of rain, which will help our conditions considerably. It also reduced water demand from a high of 6.15 million gallons delivered on June 21, 2020 to only 3.50 million gallons on June 30. For the full report, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-07/Portsmouth%20Water%20Supply%20Status%20Report%20July%201%202020.pdf>

FRIDAY, JULY 3

- **City Hall closed for the observance of Independence Day** – Municipal offices close at the end of the work day (4:30 pm) on Thursday, July 2 and reopen at 8 am on Monday, July 6.
- **No Advisory on Friday. Watch for the new format next week!**
- **Happy 4th!**

PEIRCE ISLAND OUTDOOR POOL OPENS ON MONDAY, JULY 6 – The outdoor pool is set for reopening on Monday, July 6 – for Portsmouth residents only (ID required). Reservations are required (click here) <https://rec.cityofportsmouth.com/CourseActivities.aspx?id=7&cat=5> as only 50 people/hour are allowed in the facility. Each reservation allows a one-hour visit between 11 am and 7 pm, with 30 minutes between each session to allow for cleaning and sanitizing. For more information on pool guidelines, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/press-releases/city-prepares-open-outdoor-pool-july-6>

CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE

- **Subcommittee for Arts/Restaurants Popup** – The subcommittee is working with City departments and the arts non-profit RooftopPopup.org to reposition the ‘popup’ on the Bridge Street parking lot rather than on the top of Foundry Place Garage. Design and permitting discussions continue while the non-profit reports receiving \$81,000 in donations to match this project’s share of the Reopening Portsmouth funds allocated by the City Council.

- **Downtown Streets Public Realm Spaces for Restaurants** –This subcommittee continues to identify parking spaces that can be separated from through-traffic by concrete barricades. Additions include Penhallow Street and another section of Market Street. Restaurants interested in their use of these “public realm” spaces for outdoor dining on Worth Lot, Congress Street, Market Street, Penhallow and a portion of Pleasant Street are encouraged to file permit requests through City’s Viewpoint system (Sidewalk Café Application). <https://portsmouthnh.viewpointcloud.com/categories/1082/record-types/6431>
- **For more information, visit the Citizen Response Task Force web page**, that provides the materials and resources the committee is using. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/citizen-response-task-force> 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

UPDATED LIST OF OUTDOOR DINING, TAKEOUT AND RESTAURANTS PERMITTED FOR INDOOR DINING – For the list of restaurants offering takeout and/or that have received approval for various outdoor and/or indoor 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>

COMING UP:

MONDAY, JULY 13

- **DOWNTOWN MAPLEWOOD AVE. SIGNAL UPGRADES** -- Electric Light Company of York, Maine will begin the upgrade to the traffic signals at three intersections along Maplewood Avenue at Deer Street, Hanover Street and Congress Street. During the work, there will be daily closures of one of the sidewalk corners at each of the intersections. Detour signing will be provided to direct pedestrians to the open crosswalks at each intersection. Pedestrian signals will remain operational during the work.
- **CITY COUNCIL MEETING, by Zoom, 7 pm. Watch the webpage for the Agenda with zoom registration details.**

Governor Sununu’s “Safer At Home” guidelines continue. For the full details on the Governor’s Executive Orders, click here. <http://www.nh.gov/covid19>

TESTING: The NH Department of Health & Human Services is now coordinating COVID-19 testing appointments at 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>

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

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](#).