

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Manager's Advisory Monday, September 28, 2020

Portsmouth Mask Ordinance now in effect. For the full ordinance, click [here](https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Ordinance%20-%20Face%20Coverings%20Chapter%203%20Article%2011%20-%20FINAL%2009-14-2020.pdf). <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Ordinance%20-%20Face%20Coverings%20Chapter%203%20Article%2011%20-%20FINAL%2009-14-2020.pdf>

Governor Sununu's "Safer At Home" guidelines continue until October 1, 2020.



FLU SEASON AHEAD! FLU SHOTS NOW AVAILABLE

Public health officials are urging people to get flu shots this year. Things to know:

- Symptoms of the annual flu are very similar to those for COVID-19. If you develop symptoms and can rule out the flu, it is easier to determine next steps for COVID-19 testing, quarantine and allocating medical resources.
- Everyone over the age of 6 months – who are not allergic to vaccine components – should get a flu shot this year.
- The flu immunization takes about 2 weeks, so you should get a flu shot at least 2 weeks before flu season starts in December. The sooner the better.
- The strain of flu changes each year, so the vaccine is slightly different each year and you need a flu shot with that vaccine.
- Flu shots are now available in the Portsmouth at:
 - Prompt Care at Pease (WD Hospital Portsmouth Outpatient): 73 Lafayette Rd. 603.610.8051 Flu shots available. Walk in or make an appointment.
 - ClearChoice MD: 750 Lafayette Rd. 603.427.8539. Flu shots available. Walk in, but preregistration will save time.
 - Rite-Aids: Flu shots available. Walk in.
 - CVS: 674 Islington St. 603.431.0234 Flu shots available. Prefer appointments be made due to small waiting area.

All of the above said that flu shots are covered at no cost with most insurances and Medicare. For more information about the flu shot location closest to you, visit: <https://vaccinefinder.org/find-vaccine>

WATER RESTRICTIONS NOW IN EFFECT – The DPW Water Division is restricting Water customers to use for watering lawns and gardens only on odd-numbered days, between midnight and 10 am. There should be no outdoor watering on even-numbered days. For more information:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/press-releases/portsmouth-dpw-water-division-imposes-watering-restrictions> The map above shows the NH Drought Monitor, indicating "Severe Drought" in the Portsmouth area as of September 23, **The NH Division of Forests and Lands has issued a "red flag" warning statewide to alert residents to the high risk of forest fires** due to the extremely dry conditions.

For more on what that means: <https://www.nh.gov/nhdf/community/daily-fire-danger.htm>

The Portsmouth Fire Department announces that no new permits will be issued until further notice. Also, the Fire Chief urges residents with Class 1 and 2 backyard fire permits to use extreme caution when kindling fires, to not burn if it is windy and to be extra sure the fire is extinguished before leaving it for the evening.

DEADLINE OCT 1: CLIPPER STRONG FUND MINI-GRANTS -- The Clipper Strong Fund Committee's **new effort is a mini-grant program that will award grants of up to \$500 to businesses in need of short-term relief to cover such expenses as utility bills, rent, PPE or other expenses.** To qualify to apply for a Clipper Strong Fund mini-grant, the applicant must be:

1. An independent business with 10 or fewer employees (whether full- or part-time).
2. A Portsmouth business in existence for at least 6 months prior to March 13, 2020 (the date of Governor Sununu's COVID-19 Emergency Order).
3. Able to define the intended use of the grant of up to a maximum of \$500. Eligible uses include: COVID-19 safety modifications for employees or the public, inventory or new equipment required to reopen under the COVID-19 guidelines, rent, utilities, employee benefits or marketing materials (including printed or online media for public information). Successful applicants will be expected to prove the need with invoices or written estimates.

Applications for the Clipper Strong Fund mini-grants are now available online

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/Clipper%20Strong%20Fund%20Application%202020.09.08.pdf>

Completed applications must be submitted by email to clipperstrong@gmail.com by 11:59 pm on October 1, 2020.

The Clipper Strong Fund is still accepting donations (<https://www.clipperstrong.org>) Donations in the form of a check may be mailed to the Clipper Strong Fund c/o Coastal Economic Development Corporation, 4 Merrill Industrial Drive, Suite 201, Hampton NH 03842. Small businesses who would like **to receive a free 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

WED SEP 30 PRESCOTT PARK MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION PUBLIC COMMENT 6 pm via Zoom -- Click here

http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/files/prescottpark/20200914_PRESCOTT%20PUBLIC%20MEETING1.pdf for the presentation on the preliminary project engineering work conducted by Weston & Sampson and next phase of implementing the Prescott Park Master Plan. Residents are invited to comment on the presentation and ask additional questions via online "office hours" with members of the Prescott Park Master Plan Implementation Committee and Weston & Sampson. Next session is Wed, Sep 30, 6 pm. To register: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/events/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-open-office-hours-1>

For more information on the Implementation Plan, click here.

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/prescottpark/prescott-park-master-plan-implementation-committee>

WARD 3 CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE FORUM WED SEP 30 at 6 pm via Zoom – The Committee has gathered a panel of Portsmouth City officials to discuss projects and issues specific to the Ward 3 neighborhood. The Zoom meeting is open to residents of Ward 3 as well as to the public at large. Advance registration is required. For the Agenda and Zoom registration link, go to.

<http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/agendas/2020/misc/cnc093020not.pdf>

SCHOOL'S OPEN – DRIVERS URGED TO WATCH FOR CROSSING GUARDS – For the locations:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/CrossingGuard.pdf> For the schedule:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/press-releases/dpw-reminds-drivers-be-cautious-school-crossings>

HYDRANT AND WATER MAIN FLUSHING CONTINUES, 7-11 pm -- Monday through Thursday for the next six 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. Residents are advised that when the Water Division trucks with flashing lights are working in their neighborhood, they should refrain from washing laundry to avoid any potential discoloration of clothing. While flushing can result in discolorations to tap water, the water remains safe to drink. When flushing is finished, water customers should run cold water to clear any discolored water in their plumbing systems. If the discoloration persists, customers should contact the Water Division through the Click 'n Fix system to ensure prompt response. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/portsmouth-click-n-fix>

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY, SAT OCT 3, from 8 am to 12 noon at the DPW Recycling Center, 680 Peverly Hill Road – Household hazardous waste collection helps safely dispose of items that can harm residents' health, the environment and drinking water supplies. Collection Day is organized as a no-touch, drive-through service. Residents remain in their vehicles and pull through the Public Works garage, where staff will remove disposable items from car trunks. All City staff will be wearing masks and will be practicing physical distancing. Staff will ask participants for their town of residence for survey purposes, in compliance with EPA requirements. Proof of residency in Portsmouth, Newington or Greenland is required. For more information on what items are accepted and which are not, visit: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/solid-waste-recycling/household-hazardous-waste-day>

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK:

BANFIELD ROAD CONSTRUCTION CLOSURE – The section of Banfield between Heritage Ave and Ocean Rd. is now closed due to construction. Drivers are detoured to Lafayette Rd. (Rte. 1), Mon-Fri, 7 am to 6 pm. For more information on the project, including a map of the detour route: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/banfield-road-improvements-project>

SOUTH STREET PAVING – Prep work continues for paving the section of South Street between Junkins Ave. and Marcy Street this week. No parking allowed in this section between 7 am and 5 pm. Residents with on-street parking should park in the lower lot at City Hall.

ISLINGTON STREET DETOUR BETWEEN BARLETT & CASS STREETS -- Traffic flow will be reduced to one lane of one-way westbound traffic between Cass Street and Bartlett Street. Eastbound traffic on Islington will be detoured onto Jewell Court and around the work zone via Brewery Lane and Cass Street. Flaggers and/or police details will be present to help direct traffic. Drivers should expect minor delays. Parking restrictions will be in place at all times along the detour until the winter shutdown between mid-December and next April and will resume until the project is completed in June 2021. For more information on the project, including a map of the detour route, <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/islington-street-corridor-reconstruction-project>

- **KEARSARGE & MARKET STREET BRIDGES** – Traffic reduced to one lane, police detail and flaggers in place. Work to upgrade the traffic signals at the downtown intersections with Maplewood also continues.
- **For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

TESTING-- The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services provides this list as a service to the community. The Department does not endorse any particular entity for COVID-19 testing services. <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-testing-options.pdf>

For all the COVID-related resources, [click here](#).

Governor Sununu has extended his Emergency Order until October 1, 2020.

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/emergency-order-66.pdf> The State has also made extensive changes to the COVID guidelines over the last few weeks to minimize redundancy in each industry sector. **Those guidelines that applied to all industry sectors have been removed from separate sector pages and now live only in the Universal Guidelines (UG) pages.** In some cases (e.g. outdoor attractions, arts, music education, funerals, and more) the sector pages have been eliminated entirely and you'll find a note at the end of the UG specific to those sectors. Click here for the details: <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>

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](#)