

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Manager's Advisory Thursday, October 15, 2020

Do your part. Wear a mask.

For answers to Portsmouth Mask Ordinance Frequently Asked Questions, click here.

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-10/MaskOrdinanceFAQ%202020.10.05.pdf>

The Citizen Response Task Force also offers the following COVID-19 information:

Regional COVID-19 Dashboard as of October 12, 2020:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-10/NEWCovidDashboard101220.pdf>

For Testing FAQs click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/FINAL%20CRTF%20Letterhead%20Testing%20FAQs%202020.08.24.pdf>

For COVID-19 & Mask FAQs click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-09/CRTF%20Letterhead%20COVIDMasks%20FAQs%202020.07.28.pdf>

For Ventilation FAQs click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/ventilation-faqs>

Health Department:

For Restaurant Indoor Barrier FAQs, click here.

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/barrier-use-indoor-restaurants>

BLANKET OUR COMMUNITY – SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE RESTAURANTS, OCT 14-18 – The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth invites residents to warm the hearts of local restaurants by bringing their own blankets to their favorite outdoor dining spots. Thanks to the generous sponsors of what would have been Restaurant Week, the Chamber hopes to share the warm feelings created by restaurants efforts to re-imagine their dining space with outdoor magic in the form of lights, umbrellas and creativity. Blanket your favorite restaurants with support this Fall. And share your cozy blanket photos with the Chamber Collaborative at #GoPortsmouthNH

LAST WEEKEND FOR SERVICE CU @ POPUP NH

Be sure to check out the [PopUp Raffle](#) for a chance to win \$2000 in giftcards!

NOTE: No parking on Bridge Street:

Thurs, 4:30 pm – 9 pm

Fri, 4:30 pm – 10 pm

Sat, 11:30 am – 10 pm

Sun, 11:30 am – 8pm

DINING HOURS

Thursday, 5-9 pm, Black Trumpet, Camp Sipabrew*, Dos Amigos

Friday, 5-10 pm Black Trumpet, Camp Sipabrew

Saturday, noon-10 pm Black Trumpet, Camp Sipabrew, The Wilder

Sunday, noon-8 pm Black Trumpet, Camp Sipabrew, **Dos Amigos**

*Camp Sipabrew includes **Liar's Bench, Stoneface Brewing, Earth Eagle, Great Rhythm, Loaded Question**

PERFORMANCE

Appearing on the bankprov. stage NOTE: Prices are for a 2-seat or 4-seat table reservation.

Thurs Oct 15, 7-9 pm, [Honey's Happy Hour\(s\) – Meals on Heels](#), \$24 - \$48.

Fri Oct 16, 6-7:30 pm Early Show 6-7:30 pm [The Ghost of Paul Revere](#), \$70 - \$140. **Late Show** The Ghost of Paul Revere (SOLD OUT)

Sat Oct 17, Afternoon 2-4 pm [Ben Baldwin and The Big Note](#), \$40 - \$70. 5-8 pm **Evening 5-8 pm**, [Soggy Po' Boys](#), \$50 - \$100.

Sun Oct 18, Afternoon, 3-5 pm, [PopUpJazz with the PMAC Jazz Faculty](#), \$40 - \$80. **Evening, 7-9 pm**, [Prescott Park Arts Festival and Portsmouth Halloween Parade at PopUp NH Present: "Beetlejuice,"](#) \$40 to \$80.

CHAMBER COLLABORATIVE HOSTS 1ST DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE ROUNDTABLE FRI OCT 16 at 2:30 via Zoom. To register for the free Zoom, click here.

<https://portsmouthchamber.org/events/details/congressional-candidate-roundtable-district-1-presented-by-eversource-52199?calendarMonth=2020-10-01> The Chamber invites you to meet – virtually -- the two candidates for U.S. Congress District 1, which covers Portsmouth to Manchester and much of the Seacoast:

- Congressman Chris Pappas has been serving as the U.S. Representative for New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District since 2019. He previously served on the New Hampshire Executive Council from 2013 to 2019, representing District 4.
- Matt Mowers served as Senior White House Advisor at the State Department. Before serving in President Trump's State Department, Mowers advised Republican leaders as a senior official for the Trump-Pence Presidential campaign, and as Executive Director of the New Hampshire Republican Party.

Attendees via Zoom will be seated in two separate "rooms" to interact directly in a facilitated discussion with the candidates. After approximately 25 minutes of Q&A with one candidate, the candidates will shift into the opposite "room" so attendees have the same amount of time with each candidate. This is neither a debate nor a panel discussion, but an opportunity for voters to ask questions and share concerns with both of the candidates. The Roundtable is presented by Eversource.

OCTOBER IS FIRE PREVENTION MONTH – The Portsmouth Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau offers 10 Fire Safety Tips to keep in mind. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/fire/about-fire-preventionsafety-tips> And the caution: By planning ahead you can do a lot to prevent a fire. But once a fire starts in your home there are only three things to do:

1. Get everyone out of the house.
2. Close the door behind you.
3. Call 9-1-1 from outside the building or from a neighbor's home.

Don't go back into a burning building, no matter what. If you think someone is trapped inside, tell the firefighters when they arrive.

PORTSMOUTH TRICK OR TREAT: SAT OCT 31, 3-6 pm. Follow NH Health guidelines to reduce the risk of COVID-19 while celebrating Halloween. <https://www.readynh.gov/documents/halloweencovid-19safety.pdf>
Look for Ghosts Of the Port – 55 of them have arrived!

Halloween Guidelines:

The hours permitted for trick-or-treating will be Saturday, October 31 from 3 to 6 pm. The schedule for trick-or-treating in Portsmouth is subject to change, based on the COVID-19 infection rates being reported in late October.

The City Health Officer asks that families not travel town to town or invite friends or family from other towns to come to Portsmouth as that reduces the risk associated with mixing households in close groups. The City's Emergency Services team also reminds residents that gathering in groups, in indoor settings with reduced air flow, is highly discouraged due to the greater risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Residents are asked to follow this guidance compiled from advice issued by the State of New Hampshire, the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the New Hampshire Municipal Association:

- **Travel in family groups, only (not with members of other households).** Small children should be accompanied and supervised at all times.
- **Maintain at least a six-foot distance** between people not from the same household.
- Wear face coverings (standard Halloween masks are not sufficient as they typically do not cover the mouth).
- Bring a small bottle of **hand-sanitizer** with you and use it often.

- Residents who do not want to participate should leave their front house lights turned off or put a sign on the driveway or sidewalk. Trick or treaters should respect that notice.
- **No direct distribution of treats, please.** Children and those providing candy should maintain physical distance.
 - Distribution points should be cleaned regularly throughout the three hours of trick or treat.
 - Put treats in individual paper bags, or spread out on trays rather than using a communal bowl and place on a table on the front walk, porch or driveway.
 - Be creative! Candy slides or tubes? Who will have the best idea for distributing treats?

SUPPORT THE BUSINESSES ON ISLINGTON STREET. YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE! The construction/detour between Cass and Bartlett (and on either side) has brought challenges to businesses on that section. All of the businesses – Loaded Question Brewing, White Heron Café, Papa Wheelies, The Kitchen, Seacoast Auto Parts, Flote, Dogland, Luigi's, STREET, Blaze Yoga & Pilates, Sweet Pea Bakery, Nest, Herbal Nails, Decades, Portsmouth Escape Room, Liar's Bench, Kaffe Kilim, Ohana, Botanica, Oomph, Cornerstone and more! – are open and looking forward to welcoming you.

PORTSMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SURVEY -- In an effort to evaluate the services provided to the, the Portsmouth Police Department is asking residents to complete a brief survey. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/police/2020-portsmouth-pd-community-survey>. The survey is 16 questions long and should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. The Police Department asks residents to complete the survey by October 23. Responses remain anonymous and once the results are tabulated and analyzed, the statistics will be made public. Any questions regarding this survey can be directed to Lt. Eric Kinsman of the Professional Standards Division at (603) 610-7519.

DRAWDOWN PORTSMOUTH ECO-MUNICIPALITY COMMUNITY DISCUSSION WED Oct 22 at 6:30 pm via Zoom -- The Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Sustainable Practices presents a virtual community discussion to provide an update on the committee's work in support of Portsmouth's Eco-Municipality commitment. The committee also introduces a workshop on "How Portsmouth Can Apply Project Drawdown Tools to Help Achieve a Climate-Safe Planet." Advance registration is required to participate in the discussion. To register for the Zoom discussion, visit: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvf-CtrzooGdx19OobJFTEY6m3nnd5F9Ug>

WATER RESTRICTIONS STILL 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. The recent rain far from makes up for the lack of rain since June. 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 October 7. **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 is issuing no new burn permits 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.

FLU SEASON AHEAD! FLU SHOTS NOW AVAILABLE -- Public health officials are urging people to get flu shots this year. Flu shots are now available in the Portsmouth at:

- Prompt Care at Pease (WD Hospital Portsmouth Outpatient) 73 Corporate Dr. 603.610.8051. Flu shots available; can walk in or make an appointment
- ClearChoice MD 750 Lafayette Rd 603.427.8539. Flu shots available - can walk in, but preregistration will save time.
- Rite-Aids: Flu shots available; can walk in.

- CVS: 674 Islington St 603.431.0234 Flu shots available; prefer appointments be made due to waiting area size.

All of the above said that flu shots are covered at no cost with most insurances and Medicare.

PORTSMOUTH VOTING CENTER IN CITY HALL OPEN WEEKDAYS THROUGH NOV 2. POLLING HOURS ON NOV 3: 8 AM TO 8 PM --The Portsmouth Voting Center in the Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers in City Hall operates on the same schedule as City Hall:

- Monday 8 am to 6 pm
- Tuesday 8 am to 4:30 pm
- Wednesday 8 am to 4:30 pm
- Thursday 8 am to 4:30 pm
- Friday 8 am to 1 pm

The Voting Center allows residents to take advantage of the following services offered by the City Clerk's Office: Voter registration, Obtain Absentee Ballot, Return Absentee Ballot. Anyone who is a "delivery agent" returning an absentee ballot will be required to show picture identification and complete a form. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Center cannot accommodate voting within the City Hall Municipal Complex. **The City Clerk's Office staff will also be available outside of City Hall on Saturday, October 17 and October 24, from 9 am to 12 noon, to collect absentee ballots (only from voters who are returning their own ballots).** Please contact the City Clerk's office at 610-7245 with any questions.

CURRENT OPENINGS ON CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS -- The City is seeking volunteers to fill the following vacancies:

Regular Member (one) of the Building Code Board of Appeals (Pending submission of renewal application)

Alternate Member (one) of the Building Code Board of Appeals – The vacancy to be filled would need to be (1) electrical engineer or master electrician

Regular Members (two) of the Economic Development Commission (Pending submission of renewal applications)

Regular Members (two) of the Peirce Island Committee

Regular Members (two) of the Sustainable Practices Blue Ribbon Committee

Apply now! For more information about open positions on the City Boards and Commissions, visit

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/vacancies> Applications are available in the Office of the City Clerk or download here: <http://files.cityofportsmouth.com/cityclerk/BoardsandCommissionsApplication.pdf> Questions?

Please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 610-7208.

MAPLEWOOD AVE. DOWNTOWN INTERSECTION CROSSING SIGNALS -- New Maplewood Ave downtown intersection pedestrian crossing signals are now working. Pedestrians and motorists downtown at the intersections of Maplewood Avenue and Deer Street, Hanover Street and Congress Street now experience new pedestrian-crossing patterns thanks to an upgrade in the traffic signals. Previously, all vehicle traffic stopped at the same time for pedestrian crossing in all directions. That cycle caused delays. The new timing gives pedestrians the WALK signal while the traffic moving parallel with them has the green signal. Turning traffic will be required to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk. New signs posted at each intersection and electronic message boards will alert drivers to the need to yield to pedestrians when turning at intersections. **Make sure you press the button for the crosswalk you want. There are now two buttons.**

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK:

DENNETT STREET -- Work is underway around manhole covers to prepare for grinding next week in preparation for paving.

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>

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 – Congestion around the Marcy/Pleasant/South Street intersection due to replacing the bridge membrane, then paving.

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. Paving in November.

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 November 15, 2020. The State has also made changes to the COVID guidelines 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](#)