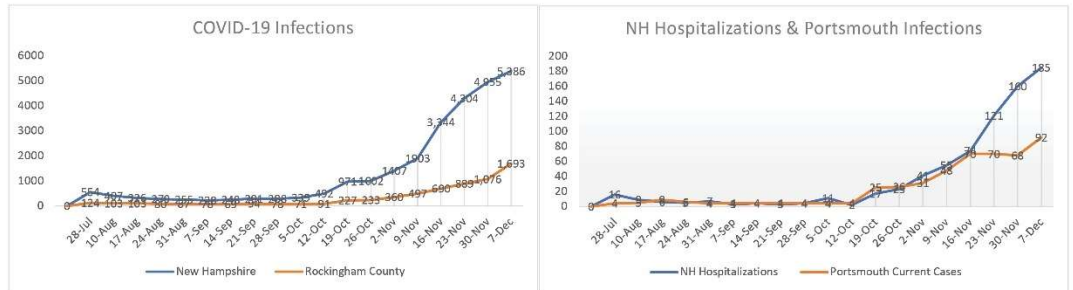


CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Manager's Advisory
Wednesday, December 9, 2020

	NH	Cty		NH	Ports
28-Jul	554	124	28-Jul	16	4
10-Aug	407	103	10-Aug	9	5
17-Aug	326	103	17-Aug	6	9
24-Aug	279	80	24-Aug	5	6
31-Aug	255	87	31-Aug	7	4
7-Sep	228	78	7-Sep	3	4
14-Sep	248	69	14-Sep	4	4
21-Sep	291	94	21-Sep	3	4
28-Sep	288	78	28-Sep	4	4
5-Oct	339	71	5-Oct	11	4
12-Oct	492	91	12-Oct	2	4
19-Oct	971	227	19-Oct	17	25
26-Oct	1002	233	26-Oct	23	26
2-Nov	1407	360	2-Nov	41	31
9-Nov	1903	497	9-Nov	55	48
16-Nov	3,344	690	16-Nov	74	70
23-Nov	4,304	889	23-Nov	121	70
30-Nov	4,955	1,076	30-Nov	160	68
7-Dec	5,386	1,693	7-Dec	185	92



THIS WEEK'S REGIONAL COVID-19 DASHBOARD – One of the elements of the weekly Dashboard created by the Citizen Response Task Force Health Subcommittee is the chart above showing Current Cases in NH, Current Cases in Rockingham County, NH Hospitalizations and Current Cases in Portsmouth.

[REVISEDCovidDashboard120820.pdf](https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-10/REVISEDCovidDashboard120820.pdf) ([cityofportsmouth.com](https://www.cityofportsmouth.com))

STATEWIDE MASK MANDATE & PORTSMOUTH MASK ORDINANCE NOW IN EFFECT.

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>

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

For COVID-19 & Mask Facts click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/covid-19-mask-facts>

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

For Daily Life During the Pandemic FAQs, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/daily-life-during-covid-19-frequently-asked-questions>

FOR UPDATED INFORMATION FROM NH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, click here: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/self-quarantine-covid.pdf>

For DHHS COVID-19 FAQs, click here: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-19-faq.pdf>

CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING WED DEC 9 at 5 pm via Zoom. For agenda and Zoom registration information, visit: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/CNC%20Agenda%20120920.pdf>

CHAMBER CHAT LIVE! “Doing Well at Doing Good,” FRI DEC 11 at 1 pm via Zoom. For Zoom registration, click here. [Chamber Chat LIVE! Meet People Who Are Doing Well at Doing Good - Dec 11, 2020 - The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth, NH \(portsmouthchamber.org\)](#)

How lucky are we to live in a community where SO many of our friends, neighbors, and colleagues have stepped up to "do good" during the pandemic? Chamber Collaborative President Valerie Rochon and Andrew Bagley, tireless cheerleader for the arts, business, and non-profits, welcome:

- Anne Weidman, responsible for Biz Dev and Community Engagement for JSA Design, will share the amazing work she and a volunteer team of architects have done to re-imagine our outdoor dining scene.
- Seacoast Mask Makers (invited) all-volunteer group will share why, how, where their group of creative volunteers came together to provide thousands of masks free to our community.

LET THE MAGIC SHINE THROUGH: SECRET #5 – Did you know, Portsmouth Rotary has offered brass ornaments depicting key landmarks in Portsmouth since at least 1984? This year’s ornament not only showcases an “institution,” it is a means to achieve a great cause: \$1,000 in local restaurant gift cards distributed to local restaurant waitstaff. Buy this year’s collectible brass ornament of the iconic Gilley’s Diner and Portsmouth Rotary will use 100% of the profits to buy restaurant gift certificates waitstaff. The ornaments are \$20 when purchased at the restaurants or \$22 if purchased online: <https://portsmouth.rotary7780gives.org/rotarytree2020>

HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE

SHARE THE JOY! CARD WRITING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED -- The Alliance for Greater Good has launched a "Share the Joy" campaign seeks to put warm holiday wishes in the hands of nursing home and long-term care facility residents. The newly formed Seacoast group founded by Lisa Vivinetto, Kathryn Garcia, Joanne Wolfe and Julie Johnson is inviting community members to write personalized holiday cards to their elderly neighbors who are isolated this winter season. "You provide the cards and heartfelt notes, and we'll take care of everything else," the group says. The Alliance is also accepting Venmo cash donations which will be used to purchase food baskets for the assisted living and long-term care residents and staff. To sign up for "elf duty," those interested should email their name and phone number to Alliance.GreaterGood@gmail.com. Information: [facebook.com/allianceforgreatergood](https://www.facebook.com/allianceforgreatergood)

WELFARE DEPARTMENT ACCEPTING GIFT CARD DONATIONS FOR OLDER CHILDREN – Once again, the City’s Welfare Office is collecting gift cards for families who have older kids who are not typically served by other Christmas programs in town. Local agencies who provide holiday assistance do a wonderful job here in Portsmouth, but teenagers can be a difficult population to serve. To help close that gap, the Welfare Department is again collecting gift cards in small denominations for things like movie tickets, coffee houses, stores such as Old Navy, Gamestop and Kohl's. As with the donation of gift cards for school supplies in September, the gift cards **can be mailed (Ellen Tully, Welfare Department, City Hall, 1 Junkins Ave. Portsmouth NH 03801), left in the gray drop box in front of City Hall or, dropped off with the receptionist.** Please contact Ellen Tully, 610-7267, etully@cityofportsmouth.com with any questions or concerns.

HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS -- The Chamber Collaborative is not holding a holiday gathering this year. Instead, the Chamber is gathering resources for local nonprofits who have provided a list of what would help them out this holiday (and year-round). Requests range from \$10 to bring a student on a field trip with Great Bay Stewards to \$1,500 to sponsor one year of therapy at the Richie McFarland Children’s Center. Go online to provide “Hope for the Holidays” by granting a local nonprofit’s wish. Made possible in part by Service Credit Union, Sheehan Phinney and you. For more information, please contact Jennifer@PortsmouthCollaborative.org <http://portsmouthchamber.chambermaster.com/store/hope-for-the-holidays?viewmode=list&pagesize=12&orderby=10>

Gather Food Pantry: Gather provides food to hundreds of local families, and the need is even greater this year.. Food distribution, online grocery shopping for people who don’t want to enter the shop, meal delivery for Seniors, Meals 4 Kids, Community Fridays 9am-1pm open at Community Campus (open to anyone). Call for info 603-436-0641.

Operation Blessing: Drive up Food Pantry Wed-Fri 10am-4pm. Call for more info 603-430-8561.



CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST – REGISTER THRU DEC 10

Residents are invited to register to participate in the contest by completing the form on this page:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/press-releases/city-announces-neighborhood-holiday-lights-contest-details>

The deadline to enter is December 10, 2020. (For a printable pdf of the entry form and more information, visit

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-11/REVISED%20PosterFlyer%20113020.pdf>

Print out the form, scan it and email it to hotline@cityofportsmouth.com or mail c/o City Manager's Office, City Hall, One Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth NH 03801. The contest is open to every Portsmouth resident. Participants can choose one of two categories for judging of their outdoor light displays:

- Classic Light Display
- Creative Light Display

Contest entries will be judged by school-aged children, who will be driven through their assigned neighborhoods (not their own) to make their choices of the best holiday lights displays. Judging will take place between December 12 and 20. The Committee will create a map of the Holiday Lights Contest entries so that residents can tour the lighted locations route by car.

The winners of the following awards will be announced by Mayor Becksted at the December 21 City Council meeting;

- Best Classic/Traditional Display – \$500 Ricci Lumber Gift Certificate
- Most Creative Display – \$500 Home Depot Gift Certificate
- Best Overall Display – \$500 Lowe's Gift Certificate
- Honorable Mentions – \$25 Gift Certificates

In addition, to the prize donors, Seacoast Media Group is an in-kind sponsor, providing publicity and advertising space for the contest. **JOIN THE PORTSMOUTH HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST FACEBOOK GROUP** and share holiday decorating stories with the hashtag #HolidayLightsContest.

<https://www.facebook.com/PortsmouthHolidayLightsContest> and **share photos of your displays on Instagram at @portsmouthholidaylightscontest**

SIGN UP FOR WINTER PARKING BAN ALERTS – Snow plowing operations during each storm typically begin when snow levels exceed two inches, at which time a citywide parking ban may go into effect in order to facilitate snow removal. **Parking bans for snow removal are announced in several different ways:**

- **CodeRED:** anyone can sign up to receive automatic email and text alerts, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/parkportsmouth/snowrelatedimpacts>
- **Snow Phone:** call 766-7669 (SNO-SNOW) to hear recorded messages.
- **Channel 22:** snow parking bans are posted as bulletins
- **CityofPortsmouth.com:** a yellow (planned) or red (in effect) banner appears at the top of City website pages when snow parking ban events occur.
- **Twitter:** follow @PortsmouthDPW
- **Public Works Department:** call 427-1530 or report a snow clearing issue use the Click 'n Fix system. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/portsmouth-click-n-fix>

Join the 249 Portsmouth residents who took advantage of spaces in City parking lots and reduced rates in the garages when the parking ban was in effect Dec 5-6! Flat fee parking: \$3 at Foundry Place and \$5 at the Hanover garage, good from the time an anticipated ban is announced, until 2 hours after. Regular rates apply for additional time parked.

FLEET STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT BUILDING INSPECTIONS NOW UNDERWAY -

- Building owners in the project area (for the project area map, [click here](#)) are now being contacted by the Department of Public Works consultant, Flow Assessment Services, LLC to schedule appointments for utility surveys of their buildings. For more information on the project: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks/fleet-street-reconstruction-project>

ACCESS TO SENIOR CENTER AND LIBRARY REDUCED:

SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER: The Senior Activity Center has paused programming, through the holidays due to widespread community transmission of COVID-19. The Center staff remain available to help the senior community connect to resources. Meals on Wheels will continue to provide the Mon-Fri home delivered meals and will still offer a holiday “grab & go meal” on December 17. RSVP by Fri, Dec 11 at 9 am to 603-610-4433.

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY RETURNS TO CURBSIDE AND ONLINE SERVICES -- Until further notice, the Library is not able to offer browsing, computer use, or any other services inside the building. You can still check out materials by placing a hold for Curbside Pickup – which are now offered on demand. You can also continue to return library materials, get recommendations, attend online events, and access all online services. For more information, click here: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/library/currentservices>

REMINDERS:

APPOINTMENTS WITH CITY OFFICES: are available to help reduce indoor mingling of households.

City offices (Tax, Assessors, City Clerk, Inspections, etc.) are staggering shifts and working remotely when they can to reduce risk. You can make an appointment at any time to meet with these offices in person.

PAY YOUR CITY BILLS ONLINE -- The newly approved \$14.70 per \$1,000 in valuation property tax rate is reflected in the tax bills mailed recently. The first half is due on December 17. Again this year, the City of Portsmouth offers an online tax calculator at <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/tax/online-property-tax-calculator> for residents to use to estimate their tax bill for Fiscal Year 2021. With COVID-19 precautions still in place, **the City urges taxpayers to make their tax bill payments online, where they will receive an instant confirmation and receipt.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/pay-my-bill>

ONLINE PAYMENT FOR MONTHLY ACCOUNT AT HANOVER GARAGE -- The City of Portsmouth DPW Parking Division announces the activation of a new online account management and payment system for the High/Hanover Garage monthly parking account holders. Beginning with the billing for January 2021, issued later this month, Hanover Garage users with monthly parking accounts will receive a monthly invoice by email, including account information and total amounts due. Accessible through ParkPortsmouth.com, the new PARIS Online Portal provides the ability for monthly parkers at the Hanover Garage to view a detailed account history and take advantage of the convenience of touch-free online payment. Those who wish to pay by check may continue to do so without a processing fee; but there is a \$3 processing fee for online payments to cover the cost of the system.

ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

For Resources and Assistance with housing, food, heat, etc. click here.

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-resources>

- **Housing Relief Fund-** Governor Chris Sununu authorized the expenditure of \$35 million from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (“flex funds”) to support families or individuals in need of housing assistance as a result of COVID-19. Of the allocated \$35 million, \$20 million will be initially expended, with \$15 million being held in reserve, for rent stabilization and housing support. Both the one-time grants and the short-term rental assistance will be coupled with regional case management services to help connect households to appropriate services as defined by the household and the agency. **Program payments will be made directly to the landlord or provider, and this program will end by December 30, 2020.** For more information, visit <https://www.capnh.org>
- **Help Paying Energy Bills** – Eversource offers a COVID-19 Payment Program that gives customers up to 12 months to pay past-due balances, without down payments, fees or interest. Once enrolled the account is protected from service disconnection for the duration of the payment plan. For more information call 1-800-662-7764 or visit <https://www.eversource.com/content/nh>
- **Help Paying for Heat** -- Fuel assistance is available from Rockingham County Fuel Assistance program. For information, [click here](#).

SEACOAST CHAMBER ALLIANCE WEBSITE – The new VisitSeacoastNH.com website offers up-to-the-minute resources for businesses and visitors. <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/>

WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WHEN THE VACCINE ARRIVES? Governor Sununu announced <http://indepthnh.org/2020/12/02/first-covid-19-vaccinations-in-n-h-by-christmas-sununu-says/> that the first batches of COVID-19 vaccine may arrive in New Hampshire before Christmas and the state Department of Health and Human Services said in a draft policy that the first phase to get the vaccine will include older adults living in residential care settings like nursing homes and assisted living facilities, first responders and high-risk workers in health-care facilities. A corps of qualified vaccinators and non-vaccinators for coordinating the process will be needed as the vaccination effort ramps up. The City Health Department asks residents who are interested in volunteering to visit the NH Responds website. <https://nhresponds.org/> and fill out the online registration form. <https://nhresponds.org/agreement.php> **Volunteers should make sure they check off the "Seacoast COVID Team" in the "COVID-19 Teams" drop-down list in the Organization section of the form to volunteer for Greater Portsmouth efforts.**

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's Emergency Order extended to January 15, 2021.

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/emergency-order-72.pdf>

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](#)