

## CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



# City Manager's Advisory

## Wednesday, December 16, 2020

**SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING BAN IN EFFECT WED DEC 16 AT 8 PM -- Take advantage of spaces in City parking lots and reduced rates in the garages** when the parking ban is in effect! Flat fee parking: \$3 at Foundry Place and \$5 at the Hanover garage, good from 4 pm Dec 16 until 2 hours after. Regular rates apply for additional time parked.

**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>

**MCINTYRE SUBCOMMITTEE HOSTS INTRODUCTION TO MCINTYRE 101 STUDY CIRCLES ON WED DEC 16 at 7 pm via Zoom** -- The McIntyre Subcommittee, with the project developer Redgate Kane, and Portsmouth Listens, with assistance from the Boston-based urban design firm The Principle Group, are hosting a "McIntyre 101" public kickoff meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, December 16 at 7 pm. To register to attend the Zoom meeting, [click here](#). This kickoff event is intended to prepare residents who have signed up for Portsmouth Listens McIntyre study circles for their deliberations in January, but the public is welcome. The City wants input from everyone, so there will be online tools and surveys to get additional comments. For further information about the study circles, please email [portsmouthlistens@gmail.com](mailto:portsmouthlistens@gmail.com)

**FIRST DOSES OF COVID-19 VACCINE ADMINISTERED IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** -- The timeline for widespread access to a COVID-19 vaccine is expected to be approximately 6-12 months, according to health officials. As vaccine production increases over time, updated information on when people can expect to receive the vaccine will be posted at [NH.gov/COVID19](https://www.nh.gov/COVID19). **PRECAUTIONS CONTINUE: STATEWIDE AND PORTSMOUTH MASK MANDATE.** Avoid crowded, confined spaces. Watch your distance (maintain 6-feet or more). Wash your hands.

**GOVERNOR SUNUNU'S EMERGENCY ORDER AND STATEWIDE MASK MANDATE EXTENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY 5, 2021**

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/2020-24.pdf>

**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/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/daily-life-during-covid-19-frequently-asked-questions>

**FOR THIS WEEK'S REGIONAL COVID-19 DASHBOARD from the Citizen Response Task Force, click here.** <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/CovidDashboard121520.pdf>

**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>

**PICTURING PORTSMOUTH** -- City staff are seeking residents' help in illustrating what life is like in the City of Portsmouth. As staff prepare documents and presentations including the Budget and Annual Report, they like to include photographs of residents taking advantage of the programs, projects, services and "amenities" – both natural and manmade – throughout the City. To participate in this effort, for the "bragging rights" of seeing their images used as illustrations in City publications, webpages and other materials, residents should submit digital, high-resolution (1M or larger) images to the email, [CapturePortsmouth@gmail.com](mailto:CapturePortsmouth@gmail.com). Please include the photographer's name, what/who is in the photo, location and when (approximately) the photo was taken. Send only appropriate photos for use in City publications/presentations. By submitting images, the photographer grants the City permission to use them, without compensation, in City documents and/or presentations. For suggestions: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/press-releases/city-seeks-residents-images-portsmouth-use-city-publications>

**LET THE MAGIC SHINE THROUGH SECRET #8** – Did you know there are new holiday lights on Vaughan Mall? Thanks to a generous benefactor, the trees on the pedestrian way between Congress and Hanover Street are completely wrapped with strings of lights.

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS THROUGHOUT PORTSMOUTH** – There are 76 participants in the Holiday Lights Contest – and more bringing light and cheer to the December darkness? The map showing all the neighborhoods filled with Holiday Lights Contest entries is now available! Click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/HolidayLightsMAP.pdf>

**SANTA FIRETRUCK TOUR DEC 19 from 10 am to 2:30 pm. Check the schedule for your neighborhood** – Fire Chief Todd Germain has convinced Santa to share the map of the route he'll take to check out all the holiday decorations on Saturday, Dec 19. Rain/snow date is Sunday, Dec 20. (Chief had to promise to let Santa ride on the back of a ladder truck, in exchange. Santa Claus does like those shiny bright red "sleighs"! For the route and the estimated times he'll be passing through, so children can wave from their front porches or lawns, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/Santa%20Route%202020.pdf>

**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](mailto: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](mailto:Jennifer@PortsmouthCollaborative.org)

<http://portsmouthchamber.chambermaster.com/store/hope-for-the-holidays?viewmode=list&pagesize=12&orderby=10>

**NEW! Salvation Army Hot Meals** – The Salvation Army at their new location at 115 Heritage Ave. offers free dinner and breakfast service for anyone who needs a hot meal. During the pandemic, they are putting packaged hot meals out front for dinner M-F from 5-6 pm. Some eat them there outside or in their cars, but they can also be taken home to warm up again. Breakfast is from 7-8 am, 6 days a week.

**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.

### **SEACOAST CHAMBER ALLIANCE**

- **WEBSITE** – The new VisitSeacoastNH.com website offers up-to-the-minute resources for businesses and visitors. <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/>
- **NEW! POSTERS** – The Alliance has developed a set of posters that businesses and organizations can download for free and print/post to inform their publics. Click here: <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/business-support/>

**NH STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS CAMPAIGN FOR PERFORMING ARTS ORGANIZATIONS** – The NHSCA has worked with the Governor's reopening task force to develop graphics for a public information campaign that performing arts organizations across the state can use to remind their audiences that "We Will Be Back." For the free materials, click here. [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sh6t90h3zoybw3w/AAAyF8\\_SNapEaW-ellWP3Qeza?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/sh6t90h3zoybw3w/AAAyF8_SNapEaW-ellWP3Qeza?dl=0)

**PAY YOUR CITY BILLS ONLINE** -- 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> Property tax bills (first half) due Dec 17.

**ONLINE PAYMENT FOR MONTHLY ACCOUNTS AT HANOVER GARAGE** -- The City of Portsmouth has extended the online account management and payment system in place for monthly accounts at the Foundry Place Garage to the High/Hanover Garage monthly parking account holders. Monthly parking accounts will receive a monthly invoice by email, including account information and total amounts due. Accessible through ParkPortsmouth.com, the PARIS Online Portal provides the ability for monthly parkers 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. <https://www.snhs.org/programs/energy-programs/low-income-home-energy>

**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 February 5, 2021.**

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/2020-24.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](mailto:hotline@cityofportsmouth.com)

For more information, visit City's page on COVID-19: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-information>