

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Manager's Advisory

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

HOLIDAY TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULE: Normal Friday trash pickup takes place THURSDAY Dec 31. ALSO: This week DPW will begin collecting discarded Christmas trees with normal trash collection. Or residents may dispose of Christmas trees at the Recycling Center.

NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY HOURS FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES: Closed from 4 pm Wed. Dec 30 until 8 am Mon. Jan 4.

REMINDER: No First Night® Portsmouth celebrations this year due to COVID-19.

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>

PORTSMOUTH MASK ORDINANCE EXTENDED THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021.

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>

NEW! PORTSMOUTH VACCINE FAQs from the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Health and City Health Department, click here. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/vaccination-faqs>

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 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>

For DHHS VACCINE FAQs, click here: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/vaccination-planning-faq.pdf>

PRELIMINARY NEWS FROM THE NEW STIMULUS BILL -- With the signing of the emergency coronavirus "stimulus bill," estimates suggest NH will receive approximately \$2 billion, allocated in part as follows:

- \$685 million will go to fund extended \$300/week unemployment benefits.
- \$600 million in direct payments to approximately 620,000 NH residents.
- \$200 million for emergency rental assistance to cover past due rent, future rent payments, and utility costs. The bill also extends the CDC eviction moratorium for nonpayment of rent for one month: through January 31, 2021.

- \$183 million to cover “testing, tracing and COVID mitigation funding”
- \$36 million for COVID-19 vaccine distribution and administration.
- \$156 million to public school districts and \$91 million for colleges/universities

FOOD ASSISTANCE

St. John’s Community Lunch, Wednesdays Noon to 1 pm. Guests enjoy a brown bag lunch to go, thanks to partnerships with local restaurants and friends. At the Middle Street Baptist Church (18 Court Street) parking lot (behind the building, in an easy drive-through loop). No reservations needed. Questions? Please contact lunch@middle.st or 603-436-2337.

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.

SIGN UP FOR WINTER PARKING BAN NOTICES AND OTHER CITY ALERTS – The City sends out email and text alerts via the CodeRed notification system. During snowstorms these notices alert residents to such things as trash pickup rescheduling and when the public garages are full, as well as announcing parking bans. **These alerts 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>
- **During parking bans, residents should 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 beyond the lifting of the ban.

MCINTYRE 101 -- 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” Study Circle effort in January. **The City wants input from everyone, starting with this online survey** <https://principlegroup.typeform.com/to/M3g1gkIG> **open now through January 3, 2021 at midnight.**

- For a recording of the Dec 16 public kickoff meeting held via Zoom, click here. https://youtu.be/VDIjvaC61_s
- For the Principle Group Dec 16 presentation, click here. https://issuu.com/principleplaces/docs/20201216_mcintyre_101_presentation_web
- For a dynamic tool that shows comments received during McIntyre 101 – including last night’s Zoom chat comments, click here: https://miro.com/app/board/o9J_lahT4O8=/
- For further information about the study circles, please email mcintyre@principle.us
- For all of the background and documents on the McIntyre Project, click here: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/mcintyre-project>

APPLY TO JOIN CITIZEN RESPONSE TASK FORCE/MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON REOPENING PORTSMOUTH 2021 -- The City Council voted on Dec 14 to continue the duties of the Citizen Response Task Force (CRTF), reconfigured as a Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force to Reopen Portsmouth 2021. The members of the CRTF who are health professionals will also remain, and also serve on an additional Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee instead of as the CRTF Health Subcommittee, to assist the City Health Department. There are 5 openings on the main committee, in: Health, Restaurants, Retail, Arts/Nonprofit, and At-Large. Portsmouth residents who are interested in serving on the Reopen Portsmouth 2021 Blue Ribbon Committee should complete this application <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/sites/default/files/2020-12/BlueRibbonReopenPortsmouth%20APPLICATION.pdf> and submit it to the City Clerk by email: klbarnaby@cityofportsmouth.com

ASSISTANCE RESOURCES

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

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

- **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>

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. 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>

SEACOAST CHAMBER ALLIANCE

- **WEBSITE** – The new VisitSeacoastNH.com website offers up-to-the-minute resources for businesses and visitors. <https://www.visitseacoastnh.com/>
- **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/sh6t9oh3z0ybw3w/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>

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.

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

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