

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



City Newsletter
Wednesday, December 15, 2021

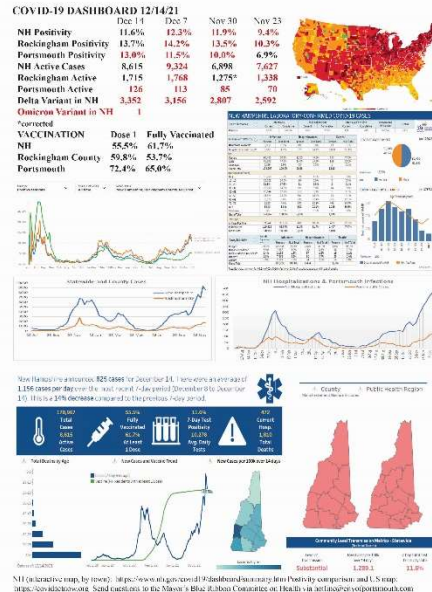


NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING PROGRAM UPDATE TUES DEC 21 at 6:30 pm -- In City Hall Conference Room A and via Zoom.

CITY COUNCIL DECLARES PARKING HOLIDAY DEC 18-25 - Parking in on-street and lot spaces managed by the City of Portsmouth is free of charge on these dates.

UPDATED 2021 HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST MAP NOW AVAILABLE - Winners will be announced Dec 20 at the City Council meeting.

CITY SETS TAX RATE OF \$15.03 PER \$1000 OF ASSESSED VALUE - A reduction of 2% from the estimated tax rate proposed when the FY22 budget was approved.



LETTERS TO SANTA! - Leave (or mail) a letter to Santa in care of the Senior Activity Center (125 Cottage Street, Portsmouth NH 03801) by MON DEC 20

REGIONAL COVID-19 DASHBOARD - For a printable PDF, click here: https://tinyurl.com/2p9hhrus

REGISTER FOR SCHOOL VACCINATION CLINICS MON DEC 20 & WED DEC 22, 3-7 PM Open to any child under the age of 18. Pfizer boosters for 16 & 17 year-olds (recommended by the CDC) are available, too!

**NH SOURCE FOR FREE AT-HOME TESTING KITS** – While NH DHHS secures new supplies of the Say Yes to the Test kits, they are recommending the at-home PCR saliva tests available for NH residents from Vault Medical Services. To order a free kit, visit: <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nh/>

**FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITE AT FOX RUN MALL IN NEWINGTON** – Open 7 days a week, 9 am to 3 pm in the old Sears store. Check your results within 48 hours.

**WALK-IN VACCINATION & BOOSTER OPTIONS** at hospitals and local pharmacy same-day sites, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/kbvemrbk>

**BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS** – Call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at [603-338-9292](tel:603-338-9292) or book an appointment online at the On-Site Medical website: <https://www.on-sitemedservices.com/>



**PREPARE FOR WINTER: SIGN UP FOR SNOW PARKING BAN ALERTS!** For more information about how you can help road and sidewalk plowing, and how to sign up for text and/or email notices when a snow parking ban is declared, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/2p87ua8p> Snow Phone Hotline: 603.766.7669



**CITY WELFARE OFFICE COLLECTING GIFT CARDS FOR OLDER KIDS** -- Local agencies do a wonderful job here in Portsmouth, but teenagers are historically a difficult population to serve. Help close that gap by donating gift cards in small denominations for things like movie tickets, coffee houses, retailers like Old Navy, Gamestop, Kohl's or the Mall at Fox Run. Please contact Ellen Tully, 610-7267, [etully@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:etully@cityofportsmouth.com). Thank you!



**CITY CONDUCTING SURVEY ON FLEET STREET RECONSTRUCTION DESIGN OPTIONS** -- DPW is posting signs along Fleet Street and on Hanover, Congress and State Streets in the project area, as well as the Hanover Garage. The weatherproof signs include sketches of the design options and a QR code that links to a page on the City website with more detailed drawings and the link to the online survey itself: <https://tinyurl.com/2jbywd5d> The Fleet Street project includes replacement of the underground utilities and reconstruction of the roadway and sidewalks in the area of the blocks between Hanover and State Streets. Once complete, the reconstruction offers the opportunity to widen the sidewalks, limit parking and/or traffic flow, and add landscaping and features such as benches and tables. The survey is designed to determine which options City residents and project abutters prefer. The survey is open to the public. For more information about the project, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/mpnr92f6>

**DPW CONSTRUCTION** – For more information visit the DPW page on the City website, then click on the Projects tab for a dropdown menu that links to an individual page for each project with updates, project background and an opt-in email list. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

**BANFIELD ROAD –Speed tables for traffic calming and three-way stop signs at Heritage Ave. and Constitution intersections now installed.**

**PEIRCE ISLAND ROAD – WORK ON SEWER FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT** -- Construction on Peirce Island Road and on the Peirce Island Road Bridge will impede traffic, on an intermittent basis, on weekdays between 7 am and 6 pm, through June 2022. **Public parking will be extremely limited during the construction but the boat ramp will remain open and accessible.**

## 95 MECHANIC STREET SEAWALL

**RECONSTRUCTION** – Pouring concrete on Tues Dec 13 for the retaining wall. Delivery of crushed stone for backfill of excavation. Installation of steel sheet piles. Delivery of granite stones end of the week. For more information and to subscribe to email updates on the project, click here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/w48zy332>



## CITY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SEASONAL PRESCOTT PARK DOCK

**LOTTERY NOW THRU JAN 7, 2022** -- For the application form, click here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y2dfvua4> The 12 boat slips are awarded via a lottery system, with preference to Portsmouth residents, first. The drawing takes place on Mon Jan 10 at 9 am. For more on rates and policies can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/ycxrarsj>

## WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

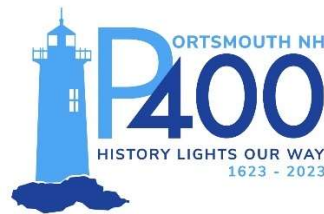
- **Middle Street Baptist Church** – Seacoast Community Lunch brown bag takeout lunches from the parking lot (18 Court St..) from 12 noon to 1 pm on Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email [lunch@middle.st](mailto:lunch@middle.st)
- **St. John's Church** -- Common Table offers a bag lunch pickup in the St. John's parking lot (100 Chapel St.) from 12 noon to 1 pm on Thursdays. Bathrooms are available to guests at this time.

## WORK FOR THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH!

To review job postings and benefits, [click here](#). For example, one of the current job openings is: **Garage Inventory Technician**. Under general supervision, this person orders, receives, stores, issues, controls, organizes, and maintains an adequate inventory of materials, parts, tools, supplies used in the maintenance and repair of the city's street, landscape, fleet maintenance and/or utilities sections; labels items for tracking purposes, monitors disbursement of goods, maintains the RTA system, input work orders, charge labor and materials to appropriate departments and performs related duties as assigned. The City offers a generous compensation and benefits package that includes retirement, generous paid time off including vacation, holidays, medical & dental insurance, flexible spending account, professional development, career growth, longevity incentives, and more! For details and to

apply, click here:

<https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/hr/work>



**PORTSMOUTH NH 400 – Learn more, get involved, volunteer, donate! For more details, visit:** <https://www.PortsmouthNH400.org>



**CITY PHASING OUT EASYPARK PROGRAM – ENDS DEC 31, 2021** -- EasyParkUSA has already discontinued the sale of new devices, although existing customers will be able to continue to use their devices in any participating New Hampshire city, and use up any remaining balance on their accounts, until December 31, 2021. Instead of EasyPark, sign up for the ParkMobile smartphone app for more convenience and flexibility. Portsmouth EasyPark users who are residents may apply for the resident discount with ParkMobile. For more information: <https://tinyurl.com/t29zj2yk>

## EMERGENCY RENTAL & UTILITIES

**ASSISTANCE** – The [NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) (NHERAP) provides funds to renters who cannot pay their rent and utilities during the pandemic. The program works with tenants and landlords. Program changes as of October 1, 2021:

- Households may qualify for assistance for past-due and future rent and utility payments for a period not to exceed 18 months.
- At least one person in the household must have qualified for unemployment benefits, had their income reduced, had significant costs, or had other financial hardship during the pandemic. Certain income requirements must be met.

## WHAT THE PROGRAM COVERS

- Past-due rent including reasonable late and legal fees.

- Three months of future rent payments if needed for housing stability.
- Utilities, such as electricity, home heating costs, water, sewer, trash.
- Other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses (including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits).
- Households may qualify for utility assistance even if they do not receive or need rental assistance.

For more information on whether you qualify and how to apply for emergency funds available to renters in NH, click here: <https://www.capnh.org/covid19>  
The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) has also launched a tool (click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4hawaxf4>) that allows renters and landlords to find rental assistance programs in their area. Applications are handled through NH Community Action Partnership (CAP).



**POST-VACCINATION FAQs** – For the latest information on breakthrough infections and third doses of vaccine, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/uurbmrse>

**VACCINE DEVELOPMENT BACKGROUND** – For more information on how the COVID-19 vaccines were developed, tested and approved, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/3yhreymk>

**PROOF-OF-VACCINATIONS:** What should you do if you discover your vaccination is not recorded properly in the NH DHHS database? Or if you need more than your vaccination card because some travel destinations require the full record? Contact NHIIS (NH Immunization Information System) at 603-271-4028, by email at [nhiis.support@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:nhiis.support@dhhs.nh.gov) or click here for the NH DHHS website <https://tinyurl.com/rva3tphc> for the immunization information system (NHIIS). On this site, select the correction forms for your PCP to verify your vaccine card, DOB, etc. You will need to get the form notarized and before sending it back to NHIIS. Once your record is corrected, you can request an official vaccine and immunization record. This record is the one that would be accepted when travelling if the vaccine card is not enough. For more answers to Frequently Asked Questions, [click here](#).

**I LOST MY PROOF-OF-VACCINATION CARD. NOW WHAT?** All vaccination records are kept on file in the CDC National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) system. NH DHHS advises that you can replace a lost vaccination card in either of two ways:

1. Download and complete the vaccination card replacement request form here: <https://tinyurl.com/4pj4chcz> Note that the completed form MUST BE NOTARIZED before sending it back to NH DHHS.
2. If your healthcare provider has access to the NHIIS, ask him/her to print out the record directly from NHIIS.

**For DHHS VACCINE FAQs, click here:** <https://tinyurl.com/tkvaksnw>

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

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

**For more information, visit** City's page on COVID-19: <https://tinyurl.com/2ywcu6ab>

**CITY HALL FACEBOOK PAGE:**  
**Like and follow us to get news as it's posted:** <https://www.facebook.com/CityHallPortsmouthNH>

**Want to know more about what's happening in the City?** Click on the QR code or link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. <https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par>

