

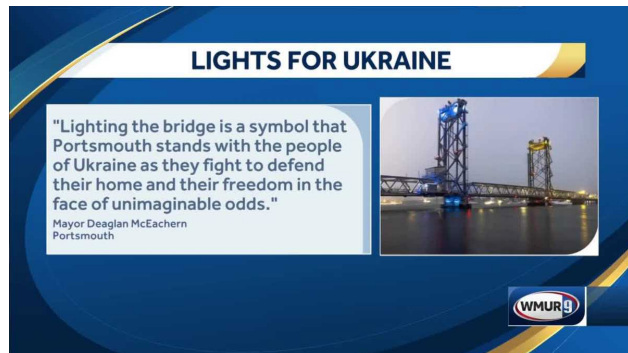
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



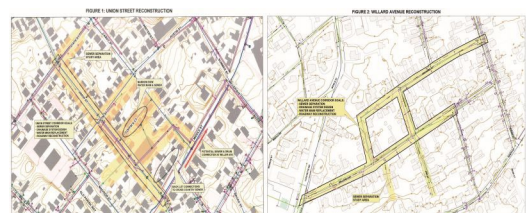
City Newsletter Monday, March 7, 2022

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING, MON MAR 7 AT 7 PM – Including continued Public Comment and vote on CIP. In person and via Zoom. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/3jk2e9j2>

Questions about a City Department, program or issue? Suggestion? Email your comment to hotline@cityofportsmouth.com and you'll receive an immediate response, or we'll find the right person who can answer your question.



In answer to those who have asked, there are many recognized relief agencies responding to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. Be sure to verify that your donations are going where you intend, as situations like this always produce scams. You might consider one of these: <https://tinyurl.com/2mtsejuh>

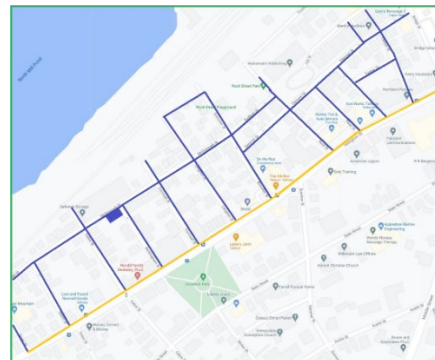


WEEKDAYS MAR 7-16: UNION ST & MILLER AVE ROAD WORK ON -- As part of the Union Street and Willard Avenue Projects, borings are needed to collect data about the soils and bedrock in the project area. The work will reduce roads to one

travel lane. Flaggers will be in place and delays may be expected from 7 am to 4 pm daily, through March 16. The work takes place in segments. The affected areas for the Union Street project include: Union Street between State Street and Middle Street, Coffins Court, Middle Street between Union and Miller, Austin Street between Union and Cabot, and Cabot Street between Coffins Court and Middle. The work areas for the Willard Ave project include: Willard Ave between Lafayette and Marston, Orchard Street, Orchard Court and Ash Street. For more information on this project, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfnp6ex>



THURS MAR 10 MIDDLE STREET BIKE LANES PUBLIC MEETING AT 6:30 PM – In City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom. For the Zoom registration, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/4e6a92s8>



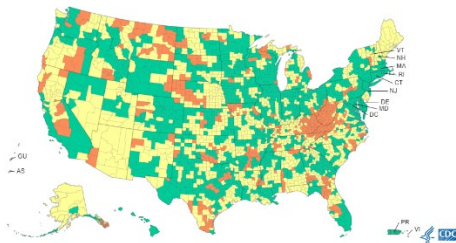
DEADLINE FRI MAR 11 FOR ISLINGTON CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING PROGRAM SURVEY -- The Islington Creek Neighborhood Parking Program (NPP) pilot launched on August 4, 2021 and was extended beyond its original end date of February 4, 2022 to April 4, 2022 in order to collect and report feedback on the program, including the results of this survey of NPP pilot participants. To participate in the survey, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/59uuf7hw>
WED MAR 16: SPECIAL PARKING & TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING ON NPP AT 6:30 PM – In-person in City Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/47dgyuzh>

DEADLINE FRI MAR 11 FOR PORTSMOUTH COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS, OPEN TO ALL ELIGIBLE PORTSMOUTH RESIDENTS --

Scholarship application season is now underway, with a **deadline of March 11, 2022 at 3:30 pm for all applications** to be submitted. The Trustees of the Trust Funds who administer the funding for many scholarships take this opportunity to remind residents that while many of the scholarships are awarded only to graduating Portsmouth High School seniors, **some -- including the five Portsmouth Community Scholarships are open to any Portsmouth resident who is a graduating senior.** Eligible Portsmouth students attending private schools and homeschool programs are eligible to apply, as well as Portsmouth residents attending Portsmouth High School. All applicants should review the criteria in the 2022 Scholarship Booklet:

<https://tinyurl.com/2p89744j> and follow the instructions for the online application process outlined here: <https://tinyurl.com/2escyvz7>

Data provided by CDC
Updated: March 3, 2022



Legend
● High
● Low
● Medium

CDC GUIDANCE ON ASSESSING COMMUNITY RISK -- On February 25, 2022, CDC updated its mask guidance and created an online tool -- COVID-19 Community Levels -- to help communities and residents decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. **The City Manager encourages the use of masks indoors in City facilities. Please note that masks are still required in the Portsmouth Public Library.** The free N95 masks supplied by the Federal government are now available at the following local pharmacies:

- CVS, 674 Islington St. at checkout, not pharmacy
- Rite-Aid, 800 Islington St., at checkout, not pharmacy
- Rite-Aid, 1303 Woodbury Ave., at pharmacy
- Walmart, 2460 Lafayette Rd., at doors and Service Desk

AARP TAX PREP ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
AARP Tax Prep is drop-off only this year. Envelopes are available at the Senior Activity Center and Portsmouth Public Library, and **drop-offs should be made at the Senior Center ONLY, February 1 – April 10, during the following times:**

- **Sundays, 11 am – 12 noon**
- **Tuesdays, 4-5 pm**

For detailed instructions on what you need for filing, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/2p87ee45>

WED MAR 9 AT THE PRESS ROOM, 6-9 PM SKATEPARK FUNDRAISER – While the City Council voted to earmark funds for the immediate design and future construction of the Skatepark on Rte. 33, a group of friends of the skatepark is raising money independently to pay for the lighting that is an expense outside of the project budget. This event and other future fundraisers are intended to cover the lighting cost.

PORTSMOUTH
**Tourism
Summit
2022**

CHAMBER COLLABORATIVE TOURISM SUMMIT WED MAR 23, 8 to 11 AM at Jimmy's Jazz Club – Free admission. For information and registration, click here. <https://tinyurl.com/2hrbu64z>

April is  **ADULT LEARN-TO-SWIM MONTH**
US MASTERS SWIMMING

1/3 OF ADULTS CAN'T SWIM THE LENGTH OF A POOL. 

Join us for Adult Learn-to-Swim, a program geared towards gaining comfort and independence in the water.


Supported by volunteers from Great Bay Masters

Register online rec.cityofportsmouth.com
April 4, 6, 11 & 13
6:30-7:00PM
Fee: \$25

Contact Us
603-427-1546
Portsmouth Indoor Pool
48 Andrew Jarvis Drive
Portsmouth, NH 03801

GBM
GREAT BAY MASTERS
FITNESS • ENRICHMENT • ARTS • ATHLETICS
PORTSMOUTH
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FITNESS • ENRICHMENT • ARTS • ATHLETICS
PORTSMOUTH
RECREATION DEPARTMENT



SPRING/SUMMER 2022

YOUTH PROGRAMS ADULT PROGRAMS SENIOR SERVICES SPECIAL EVENTS

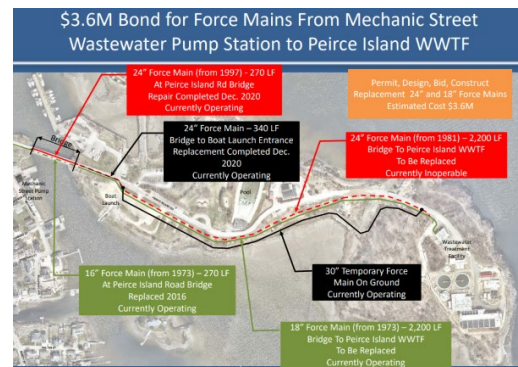
PORTSMOUTH INDOOR POOL ADULT LEARN TO SWIM LESSONS – This Learn to Swim program includes four half-hour sessions on Apr 4, 6, 11 & 13, 5:30-7:30 pm. For adults over 18) for \$25 per person. For more information and registration, click here: <https://rec.cityofportsmouth.com/Default.aspx?id=2>

REC DEPT SPRING/SUMMER PROGRAM AND CAMP INFORMATION! -- Spring/Summer info NOW AVAILABLE on the Rec Dept webpage: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation>
Printed copies of the program guide also available at City Hall, the library and at all Recreation facilities. **SPRING PROGRAM REGISTRATION now open! Summer Program/Camp Registration now open for residents** and Mon Mar 7 for non-residents. **JUST A FEW PLACES LEFT FOR INDOOR POOL SPRING SWIM LESSONS. Registration is still open for residents and non-residents.**



RUTH LEWIN GRIFFIN PLACE AFFORDABLE HOUSING APPLICATION SITE NOW OPEN!

The Portsmouth Housing Authority development, now under construction, features 48 one-bedroom apartments and 16 two-bedroom units. The units will be available to people who meet income requirements. Starting rent for the one-bedrooms units is \$950 a month, while starting rent for the two-bedroom units is \$1,200. To apply to rent one of the apartments, visit <https://cityoftheopendoor.com/>



PEIRCE ISLAND ROAD WORK FOR SEWER FORCE MAINS PROJECT -- Work continues on the project to replace the force mains to the Peirce Island Wastewater Treatment Facility.

That work requires closing Peirce Island Road, parking and trail access beyond the Outdoor Pool, on a daily basis, 7 am to 4 pm. The public is advised that access is obstructed in the area past the pool. <https://tinyurl.com/4urpjskz>

NEW ENGLAND MUSICIANS RELIEF FUND OFFERING GRANTS -- NEMRF continues to help musicians facing extraordinary hardship during the pandemic and beyond. "To date we have received over 500 applications, and most of those have been granted," NEMRF said. "We do plan to be a part of the musical community in New England for a long time to come." The New England Musicians Relief Fund is currently accepting applications. Apply at: <https://www.nemrf.org/apply>

NH DHHS REVISES HOURS FOR DAILY WALK-IN VACCINATION & BOOSTER CLINICS – Rochester, Spaulding Commons, 306 N. Main Street. NEW HOURS: Mon-Sat, 12 noon- 7pm, closed on Sundays. For additional local pharmacies and same-day sites, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/kbvemrbk>
NH Dept of Public Health expects to keep this fixed site in place through March 2022.

FREE TEST KITS BY MAIL -- Order free at-home COVID-19 tests from the Federal government website: <https://www.covidtests.gov/> which also offers 'how to test' instructions. **NH SOURCES FOR FREE AT-HOME TESTING KITS** – To order a free kit, visit: <https://learn.vaulthealth.com/nh/>

FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITE AT FOX RUN MALL IN NEWINGTON—**Note: This site is closed when school is closed because of weather.** Open 7 days a week, 9 am to 3 pm in the parking lot behind the JC Penney store. 48-hour results. For other free testing centers, click here: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/testing-faqs>

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/>

WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

- **Middle Street Baptist Church** – Seacoast Community Lunch brown bag lunches from the parking lot (18 Court St.), 12 noon to 1 pm on Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email lunch@middle.st
- **St. John's Church** -- Common Table bag lunch pickup in the St. John's parking lot (100 Chapel St.) Thurs, 12 noon to 1 pm.

GATHER COMMUNITY MARKET, FRIDAYS, 10 am – 1 pm – A FREE market for all. No paperwork. No ID. No one is ever turned away. Located at the NH National Guard building, 801 McGee Drive in Portsmouth.

WORK FOR THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH! To review job postings and benefits, [click here](#). For example, one of the current job openings is: **Urban Forestry Associate**. This May 9 – August 29, 2022 paid internship is an ideal job for students planning to work in the landscaping sector, agriculture, the natural resource arena, forestry, horticulture, or in environmental education. Individual will gain hands-on experience maintaining tree plantings throughout the City and interacting with residents to promote urban tree care.

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 ACCEPTING OFFICIAL PROGRAM PARTNER APPLICATIONS – Organizations, groups and anyone planning a Portsmouth NH 400 celebration program, project or event is invited to submit an Official Program Partner Application. <https://tinyurl.com/mw5664bm>

The goals of the Application Process are:

- To help Portsmouth NH 400 Management Team keep track of events, projects and programs (including any fund-raising efforts in 2022)
- To maintain a central calendar on the PortsmouthNH400.org website
- To connect organizations and artists who seem to be working on similar themes and ideas
- To coordinate fund-, fun- and friend-raising efforts
- To coordinate marketing efforts

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

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).



RECENTLY UPDATED:

- **MASK FAQs**, click here: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/mask-faqs>
- **VACCINATION FAQs**, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/4smxnj7>
- **TESTING FAQs**, click here: <https://tinyurl.com/57vhfbhx>
- **COVID-19 TREATMENT FAQs**, [click here](#)

KIDS AND COVID FAQs, [click here](#)

POST-VACCINATION FAQs – For the latest information on breakthrough infections, boosters and vaccine effectiveness against the Omicron variant, 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>

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>

