

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH



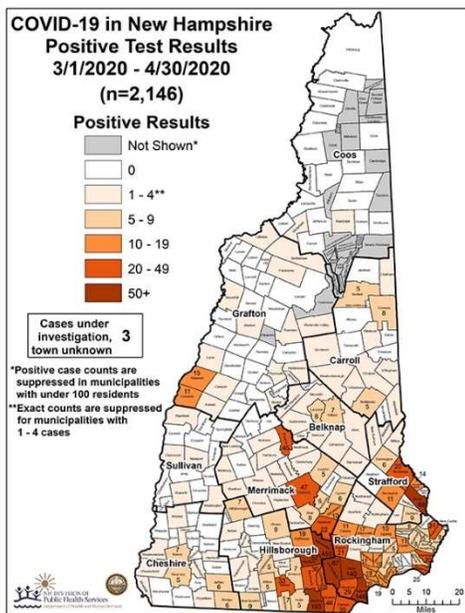
UPDATE from the City Manager for Friday, May 1, 2020

Governor Sununu announced his “Stay At Home 2.0 ” guidelines today. The order remains in effect through May 31, 2020. The guidelines and specifics regarding PPE, public hygiene, cleaning and sanitizing and other restrictions are posted here. None of the openings are mandatory. <https://businesshelp.nheconomy.com/hc/en-us/articles/360047733613-5-1-2020-Governor-Chris-Sununu-Issues-Stay-at-Home-Order-2-0>

- Starting May 4, hospitals will be allowed some time sensitive procedures. Open manufacturing businesses and interior State Parks will remain open. Campgrounds will open for NH residents only. Towns can determine local closing.
- Starting May 11, some golf, limited barber/salon services and 50% occupancy retail will be allowed under strict guidelines.
- Starting May 18, outdoor seating will be allowed at restaurants.

City Hall and other municipal buildings remain closed. The Portsmouth Public School buildings will not reopen this school year, although remote learning continues to take place. Discussions about commencement ceremonies and certificate courses are being held in parallel with State guidance.

The following map tracks the current incidence of reported COVID-19.



As of May 1, 2020, New Hampshire has experienced 2,310 cases and 81 deaths from COVID-19. Massachusetts has recorded 60,265 cases and 3,405 deaths. NH Source: <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/> MA

EVERY FRIDAY at 7 pm: Clap! Ring bells! Blow horns! Show our healthcare workers and First Responders #WeClapBecauseWeCare

Instead of repeating the long list of COVID-related resources each day, you can now find them all collected on one City website page!

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

Sign up for the Daily Advisory, [here](#). The latest news is always at the top, in red.

#LeadWithLoyalty Giftcard Contest from the Chamber Collaborative – During the first 2 weeks of May, the Chamber encourages everyone who is able to purchase gift cards from their favorite restaurants, hotels, stores and services. Take a photo of the gift card against a backdrop of the business, or your home (or heart) and send it to jennifer@portsmouthcollaborative.com The person who sends the largest number of giftcard images by midnight May 15, wins a prize.

SECOND ROUND OF PPP & EIDL LOANS OPENED: For Business Resources to assist with applying for the second round of CARES Act, provided on the Chamber Chat Live on Fri May 1 with US Rep. Chris Pappas and US Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's office:

- NH Small Business Development Center (NHSBDC) COVID-19 page: <https://www.nhsbdc.org/covid-19-assistance>
- NHSBDC electronic request for service for those seeking one-on-one business advice: <https://ic.nhsbdc.org/reg.aspx?mode=counsel¢er=16010&subloc=0>
- Access to SBDC webinars: <https://www.nhsbdc.org/events>
- Treasury FAQ: <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Paycheck-Protection-Program-Frequently-Asked-Questions.pdf>

PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY --- Although the library building is closed, Portsmouth Public Library staff are still hard at work --remotely.

- **NEW! Free Streaming Movies with Kanopy!** Watch award-winning popular movies, classic cinema, documentaries, and family films for free with a library card! The library is now offering Kanopy on a trial basis – give it a try and let them know what you think! Browse the collection of over 30,000 popular movies, documentaries, classic films, world cinema, and films for children of all ages. Stream films anytime, anywhere, on your preferred devices – there is a Kanopy app for most smartphones, tablets and smart TVs. Watch up to four titles per calendar month. And bonus: during the lockdown, Kanopy is offering many films that do not count toward the limit: the latest critically acclaimed films, cinema classics and films from the Criterion Collection, family films, shorts, and television, even the Great Courses series! Visit cityofportsmouth.com/library/kanopy to get started.
- **The Library's Special Collections Pandemic Community Diary, an initiative to record historical observations about this strange time, was featured today on NHPR.** Visit cityofportsmouth.com/library/communitydiary to learn more.

STARTING FRIDAY, MAY 1: FIRE DEPT BURN PERMITS ONLINE-- All burn permit applications are now processed through the Divisions of Forests and Lands website. Click here. <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net/> There is a State of NH processing fee of \$3. Any and all open burning requires a permit. Any questions, contact fireprevention@cityofportsmouth.com.

DPW PROJECTS THIS WEEK. For the latest on individual projects, click here and then on the Projects tab. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/publicworks>

- **GOSLING ROAD PAVING: Started Tuesday, April 28.** Between the Spaulding Turnpike on/off-ramps and Market Street. Portsmouth and Newington will complete a shared repaving project, one lane at a time, while traffic is light over the next couple of weeks. Flaggers and police details will be on station to direct traffic, as needed.
- **MARKET STREET & KEARSARGE WAY BRIDGES:** Prep work and signage installation starts this week. Kearsarge Way Bridge will be reduced to one lane, with alternating traffic directed by temporary traffic signals. Market Street between the Sarah Long Bridge and the Noble's Island traffic signal will be reduced to

one lane in each direction. For the full presentation on the project, click here.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mBTsRp4Pemo>

- **CITY HALL PARKING LOT AND DRIVEWAY REPAVING** started today and will last approximately two weeks. Both driveways and the upper parking lot are affected so **Mount Vernon Street may see occasional two-way traffic from the Police Department.**
- **BARTLETT/ISLINGTON STREETS:** Construction work has started on the Bartlett intersection. The detour for the season starts Thursday for one-way, inbound/easterly traffic between the bridge over the Bypass to Aldrich Road and outbound/westerly traffic, detoured down Aldrich.
- **BOW STREET REPAVING:** Daniel Street to Chapel Street will be closed to through-traffic and no parking will be allowed in that section. A flagger will be in place to direct traffic around the Penhallow Street detour. The rest of Bow St. is unaffected. Work should be completed by the end of next week.
- **MAPLEWOOD AVE** work has resumed for the season.
- **PRESCOTT PARK DOCK RAILING replacement work continues.** The dock remains closed.

SAGAMORE AVENUE SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT SURVEY. A survey of the households in the project area is now underway. Paper surveys were mailed to all potentially-affected households in the area and are due back by Friday, May 8. The DPW prepared this survey to determine how many properties would connect to the sewer at the time of construction and to better understand existing conditions. This information will be helpful as the City Council considers project costs and cost apportionment.

NEW! CITY COUNCIL MEETING INSTRUCTIONS FOR PARTICIPATING BY ZOOM on Monday, May 4 at 7 pm. The ongoing COVID-19 situation has radically altered how meetings of the City Council, Boards, Commissions and other municipal groups are conducted. Because these groups cannot meet in person due to the current State of Emergency in New Hampshire, legislation (NH RSA 91-A:2, III (b)) was enacted whereby the Chair of any municipal committee can declare that due to the COVID-19 outbreak s/he has waived the requirement that a quorum be physically present at the meeting. Members of such boards are allowed to participate remotely and will identify their location and any person present with them at that location. All votes will be by roll call. **Similarly, there are new arrangements for the public to participate in public meetings. These arrangements have recently changed.** City Council, Board, Commission and other municipal public meetings are still live-broadcast on YouTube and Comcast Channel 22 and recorded for re-broadcast. Members of the public are still enabled to participate in the meeting by telephone and/or Zoom video conference. **However, participants who join via Zoom are required to register in advance.** Each public meeting posted in the City calendar contains **specific information about how to register for that meeting.** For example, to register to participate in the City Council meeting on Monday, May 4, members of the public should follow the “Zoom meeting instructions” link on the meeting page where the Agenda and Packet are posted. <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/citycouncil/events/city-council-meeting-37> As before, anyone interested in submitting written comments to the City Council should visit: <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/citycouncil/contact-all-city-councilors> Other Boards, Commissions and Municipal public meetings have made similar arrangements and have notified the public how to submit comments on their respective public meeting topics.

CITY MANAGER HAS PRESENTED FY21 BUDGET: 0% TAX RATE INCREASE & NO INCREASE IN SEWER OR WATER FEES (click here for details) <https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city-manager/press-releases/city-manager-presents-fy21-budget-0-tax-rate-increase-no-watersewer>

Next steps in the FY21 Budget Process:

Wed. May 6 – City Council Meeting, Public Hearing on the Budget

Mon, May 11 – City Council Work Session. Public Safety (Police/Fire) Review & Listening Session

Wed. May 13 – City Council Work Session, School Dept. Review & Listening Session

Thurs. May 14 – City Council Work Session, Gen. Govt. & Parking Review & Listening Session

Tues. May 19 – City Council Work Session, Water, Sewer & Stormwater Review & Listening Session

Thurs. May 21 – City Council Work Session, Budget Review

Thurs. May 28 – City Council Work Session, Budget Review Follow-up

Mon. June 1 – City Council Meeting to Adopt Budget

NH COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCES: All 13 Coalition member programs are still available 24/7 to provide support and safety. Survivors of domestic and sexual violence are under increased pressure and danger during this time. This video is a reminder they are never alone: [NHCADSV Not Alone Video](#) Additional resources include:

- Local Coalition domestic and sexual violence member programs: <https://www.nhcadsv.org/member-programs.html>
- Resources specific to New Hampshire survivors during the COVID-19 crisis: <https://www.nhcadsv.org/coronavirus.html>
- Coalition website: <https://www.nhcadsv.org/>
 - **CONFIDENTIAL STATEWIDE HELPLINES**
24-hour Domestic Violence Helpline: 1-866-644-3574
24-hour Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-277-5570

STAY SAFE! STAY AT HOME! DO NOT CONGREGATE

As warm weather comes to the Seacoast, it's ok to enjoy some fresh air. Just keep your distance. Portsmouth's open space parks and trails are open, but ballfields, basketball courts and playgrounds are NOT. The locks on the gates are there for the protection of all. Remember that you might unknowingly bring COVID-19 back into your house, putting everyone at risk.

Remember to wipe down your cellphones when you're sanitizing surfaces. They're in constant use, connecting hands and face.

Continuing precautions:

- Eliminate play dates, even "1 on 1"
- Eliminate small gatherings, including meetings "between a few families."
- Cancel planned vacations for the next month and avoid airline travel.
- Stay at home as much as possible. When you do have to go out to buy groceries or medicine "make the trips quick and purposeful."
- Wash your hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after you've been in public places.

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](#).