CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

UPDATE from the City Manager for Wednesday, April 29, 2020

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

The Governor's "Stay At Home" order remains in effect through May 4, 2020. He announced the formation of an Economic Reopening Task Force comprised of a broad spectrum of NH businesses and organizations. At his press conference today, he suggested that openings in some counties may lag other parts of the state due to health cautions. He is expected to update his guidance at the end of this week.

Sign up for the Daily Advisory, here. The latest news is always at the top, in red.

THURSDAY, April 30, 1-2 pm: FACE MASK DRIVE CONTINUES! Drop-off or Pick-up Donations of PPE Masks for Healthcare Workers/First Responders and Fabric Masks for Seniors -- The City of Portsmouth Senior Services is collecting donated masks Homemade Masks will be distributed to seniors and other individuals in need throughout the community. Medical/surgical/construction type masks will be distributed to healthcare workers and first responders. All donations should be brought to the Community Campus tennis court parking lot. Drive up and leave the masks in the box. Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Supervisor will be on site to collect them. Contact 603-767-2697 to coordinate or if you have any questions. If these times do not work, please call. All homemade masks will be washed before being distributed. **If you need a cloth face mask, homemade masks can be mailed to those who could not attend the Distribution Drives.** Please email or call Brinn Sullivan, Senior Services Manager, and she will mail you a mask. 603-767-2697. bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com

FRIDAY, MAY 1 CHAMBER CHAT LIVE at 1 pm: Representatives from the NH Congressional Delegation offices will join Chamber Chat Live on Friday, May 1 at 1 pm, produced by the Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth, to discuss the details in the new stimulus/relief package passed last week. To register for the zoom meeting, click here. https://portsmouthchamber.org/events/details/chamber-chat-live-unpacking-the-april-cares-act-funding-51347

NEW: Burn Permits Now Online -- Effective May 1, 2020, all burn permit applications will be processed through the Divisions of Forests and Lands website. Click here. https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/ There is a State of NH processing fee of $3. Any and all open burning requires a permit. Class I and II permits for backyard fire pits, chimeneas, fire rings etc. will not require a site inspection. Class III permits for piles of brush or commercial burning WILL require a site inspection and one will be scheduled after an application is submitted. There will be no inspection fee in addition to the processing fee. Open burning will still be prohibited, per city ordinance Ch.5, Sec. 307.1, in the area known as the "South End" This area is defined as south of State St., east of Pleasant St., east of Junkins Ave., and north of South St. Also included is the area along Marcy St. to New Castle Ave. Any questions, contact fireprevention@cityofportsmouth.com.

City website information about Farmers Markets and grower resources. Click here. https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/farmers-market Although the City Hall markets were cancelled for the interim, many participants are offering direct food sales from their farms. Click here for the Seacoast Eat Local

directory of these resources.
http://seacoastharvest.org/safe/?fbclid=IwAR04lIEibUrNJX9fPZk5Y1mCF5QvAsYEfkU7UREodPDffpas3trafficB4nOZA7_fY

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 starts Thursday.**
- **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 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.

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING, Monday, May 4 at 7 pm. By zoom. Due to the unfortunate "Zoom bombing" incident experienced recently, the City will now conduct public meetings in a Zoom "webinar" format. This format requires members of the public wishing to speak at the meeting to register *before the meeting* to gain access. City Council members and City staff will appear as usual, as "panelists" in the webinar. Members of the public are designated "attendees." For security reasons, attendees may participate by audio only. Attendees are unmuted by the host to speak after raising their virtual hands.

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. Apr 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

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

#alonetogether does not mean "You're on your own." Here are some quick links to additional resources including the Daily Advisory. Click on the banners at the top of the homepage. They include:

- Health-related information https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/health/coronavirus-preparedness
- Food aid, grocery resources and restaurant takeout options https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/covid-19-food-resources
- Business and employee resources https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/economic/covid-19-response-resources-businesses-employees
- Archive of all City Manager Daily Advisories https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/city/city-manager-daily-updates
- 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
- State of NH COVID-19 information center, call 2-1-1.