CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

City Newsletter
Wednesday, November 3, 2021

MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS:
https://tinyurl.com/dr6wb6ne

TONIGHT: NH DOT SOUND BARRIER HEARING VIA ZOOM at 7 pm. Click here for the Zoom link. Passcode 977279. Telephone 1-312-626-6799. Webinar ID: 858 4124 9176)**.** For more information on the Ten Year Plan, visit: https://tinyurl.com/vzbjrfzy

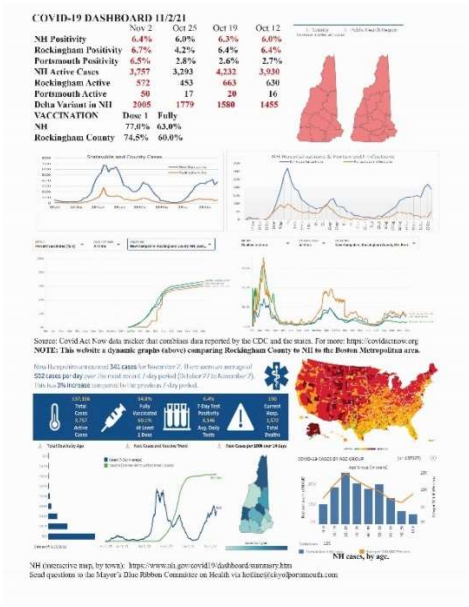


WED NOV 10 at 10 AM FREE VETERANS' BREAKFAST AT THE SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER -- Open to all who served, all ages. Space is limited, so reservations are required. Please call 603-610-4433. **Note: The breakfast takes place the day *before* Veterans' Day.**

VETERANS' DAY OBSERVANCE: THURS NOV 11 at 11 am in Goodwin Park.



CHAT WITH THE CITY MANAGER AT THE LAST FARMERS' MARKET OF THE SEASON SAT NOV 6, 8-10 AM. (Farmers Market Hours 8 am – 12 pm), City Hall upper parking lot.


COVID-19 DASHBOARD 11/2/21

	Nov 2	Oct 25	Oct 19	Oct 12
NH Positivity	6.4%	6.0%	6.3%	6.0%
Rockingham Positivity	6.7%	4.2%	6.4%	6.4%
Portsmouth Positivity	6.5%	2.8%	2.6%	2.7%
NH Active Cases	3,757	3,293	4,232	3,930
Rockingham Active	572	453	663	630
Portsmouth Active	50	17	20	16
Delta Variant in NH	2005	1779	1580	1455

VACCINATION	Dose 1	Fully
NH	77.0%	63.0%
Rockingham County	74.5%	60.0%

REGIONAL COVID-19 DASHBOARD For a larger PDF, click here. https://tinyurl.com/5m726fyt



NEW "THINK BLUE" STORMWATER VIDEO IS UP! "Falling Leafs" (sic) is up!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vp5lwUNVz0A
Either mulch the fallen leaves to add nutrients to your lawn, or bag them for curbside pickup by DPW. Leaves clog storm drains and can cause flooding in heavy rains and they pollute the watershed by using up oxygen and contributing to algae growth. To learn more about protecting the watershed and how you can "Think Blue," click here.

WORK FOR THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH!
To review job postings and benefits, click here. ***For example, one of the current job openings is Equipment Mechanic:*** responsible for maintaining a variety of Public Works light to heavy equipment and tools to ensure their safe and reliable operation, performing routine and specialized maintenance for all equipment, maintaining tools and equipment, recording all equipment maintenance and associated costs, and recommending maintenance and repair improvements. 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

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 You receive a personalized QR code when you register and can check your results in 48 hours.

CDC APPROVES PFIZER COVID-19 VACCINE FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-11. AVAILABLE STARTING NOV 8. https://tinyurl.com/5d29muh5
CDC ALSO APPROVED BOOSTERS – After 6 months, for those who received **a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine,** especially for those:

- 65 years and older
- Age 18+ who live in long-term care settings
- Age 18+ who have underlying medical conditions
- Age 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings

After 2 months for anyone 18 or older who received the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. Eligible individuals may choose which vaccine they receive as a booster dose. For more information, click here: https://tinyurl.com/3bnsfsw

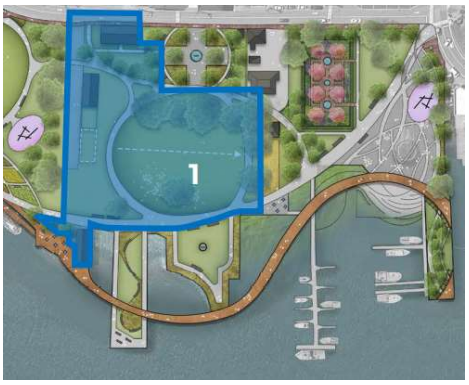


VACCINE CLINICS WEDNESDAYS, NOV 10, 17 & 24 AT SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER, 8 AM – 1 PM – Enter through the back assembly hall door. All three vaccines available, at no charge. No appointment needed! Address is 125 Cottage Street. Primary Doses for Pfizer (2-doses), Moderna (2-doses), and J&J (1-dose). 3rd Doses for Pfizer and Moderna for persons who are moderately to severely immunocompromised and BOOSTER doses available. **For boosters, be sure to bring your vaccination card and an ID.** Note: COAST Bus Trolley Route #40 stops at the Senior Activity Center.

BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS – People who are homebound and need a booster shot, or their first round of vaccinations, can call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at 603-338-9292 or book an appointment online at the On-Site Medical website: https://www.on-sitemedservices.com/

PORTSMOUTH CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE

CITYWIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE WARD 4 FORUM, WED NOV 10 at 6:30 pm. In person in City Hall Conference Room A or via Zoom. For the Agenda and Zoom registration, click here. https://tinyurl.com/urvpy6ww



MON NOV 8: PRESCOTT PARK GROUND SITE TESTING FOR MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATON PHASE ONE – DPW plans to dig three five-foot, by five-foot, by five-foot "test pits" at Prescott Park, starting at 8 am, as part of the investigatory engineering required to implement the Prescott Park Master Plan: https://tinyurl.com/uujj9w54 The work will be conducted in conjunction with a soils scientist designated by the project consultant Weston and Sampson Engineers and an archaeologist. The pits will be dug and filled in one work day.

DPW CONSTRUCTION – For more information on construction projects in the city, 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

LITTLE HARBOR ROAD -- Work will take several days, as road crews grind down the existing surface and then put down a binder layer. The road will be accessible throughout, though travel will be limited to one lane, alternating traffic. Flaggers will be in place to direct traffic.

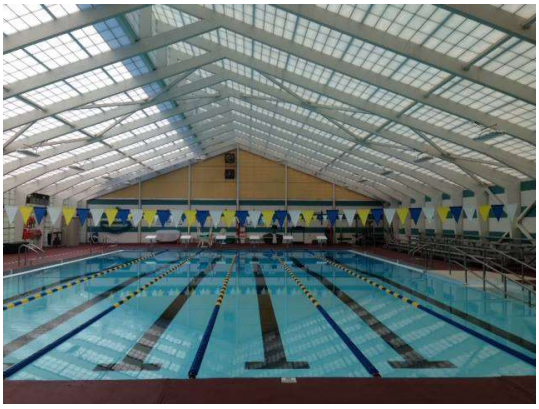


ISLINGTON STREET PROJECT DETOUR – Columbia Street is closed to thru traffic (local traffic only) during working hours. State Street is also closed to thru traffic and vehicles will be detoured through Cass Street, Lovell Street, and Madison Street (see map, above). Work this week includes: Concrete sidewalk installation on Columbia and Albany Street to Dover Street. Trees and tree wells installed in the Columbia Street area and grading of Columbia Street intersection to prepare for paving. No water service interruptions expected. For more information and to subscribe to weekly updates, click here:
https://tinyurl.com/hb4wn9s

95 MECHANIC STREET SEAWALL RECONSTRUCTION – Large equipment deliveries/removal Monday and Tuesday. Construction of temporary concrete formwork and installation of rebar Wednesday-Friday. Installation of piles with impact hammer has been completed. For more information and to subscribe to email updates on the project, click here:
https://tinyurl.com/w48zy332

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

CORPORATE DRIVE (PEASE) – JTC subcontractor is planning geotechnical borings on Thurs Nov 4 and Fri Nov 5.



INDOOR POOL NOW OPEN!
The Recreation Department reopened the Indoor Pool on November 2, 2021 and has posted the pool schedule (note that this first week, Nov 2-7, is slightly different than the schedule moving forward), click here.
https://tinyurl.com/6f9ux3wj
The Indoor Pool will not be open on weekends except for scheduled swim lessons on Saturday mornings. Registrations are NOW OPEN for both residents and non-residents for the Great Bay Masters adult swim group and American Red Cross Swim Lessons. While the fall Indoor Pool schedule allows for many of the usual activities, swim lessons and team rentals will operate under COVID-19 restrictions until children under 12 can be vaccinated. For more information, click here:
https://www.cityofportsmouth.com/recreation/indoor

CONNIE BEAN CENTER OPENS ON WEEKENDS STARTING SAT NOV 6 – The hours will be: Saturdays 8am-4pm and Sundays 10am-4pm. Masks required at all times in the building.

THANKSGIVING MEALS:

***FREE* 50th Annual Portsmouth Rotary Thanksgiving Dinner**, Thurs **Nov 25**, 11 am – 12:30 pm. **Pick up or delivery only. Due to COVID-19, there is no sit down dinner. St. Nicholas Greek Church** (40 Andrew Jarvis Dr., adjacent to Portsmouth High School) **MASKS REQUIRED.** The event is FREE and open to all individuals, children and families. **Call 603-205-1233** or **email** rotarythanksgiving@gmail.com

Senior Activity Center Thanksgiving Lunch, Thurs Nov 18, 11:30 am. In-person hot turkey lunch, $5. Reservations required. Call 603-610-4433 or email bsullivan@cityofportsmouth.com

WEEKLY FREE LUNCH REMINDERS:

- **Middle Street Baptist Church –** Seacoast Community Lunch serves brown bag takeout lunches from the parking lot of the church (18 Court St..) from 12 noon to 1 pm on

Wednesdays. For more information call 603-436-2337 or email lunch@middle.st

- **St. John's Church --** During the COVID-19 pandemic, 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.

HYDRANT FLUSHING CONTINUES -- The flushing takes place at various locations, Mon through Thurs, between 7 am and 11 pm. Flushing locations are indicated by the presence of DPW Water Division vehicles with flashing lights. The work starts on the outskirts of the city and then moves downtown as the weeks progress. When flushing is occurring, the Water Division recommends that customers refrain from washing laundry to avoid potential discoloration of clothing. After flushing has occurred, customers can check their water clarity by running cold water to flush their plumbing systems. While flushing can result in discoloration in tap water, the water remains safe to drink. If the discoloration persists, customers should report the issue using the DPW Click 'n Fix system: https://tinyurl.com/29h9f99c

COAST BUS SERVICE CHANGES STARTING NOV 13 -- Until COAST can restore adequate staffing levels, services on the following bus routes will be temporarily suspended:

- Route 14 (between the Rochester P&R/ Portsmouth Mon-Sat)
- Route 33 (continuation of 4:30pm run suspension Mon-Sat)
- Route 34 (multiple am and pm runs Mon-Sat)
- Route 40 (continuation of current suspensions)
- Route 43 (continuation of current suspensions)
- Route 44 (one pm run Mon-Fri)

Service will be resumed on the following routes:

- Route 12 (all previously suspended runs)
- Route 13 (all previously suspended runs)
- Route 33 (6:30pm run)
  For more information, visit: www.coastbus.org/upcomingservicechanges



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. At that time, all accounts will be closed and no further service fees will be charged. Instead of EasyPark, the City's Parking Division encourages subscribers to sign up for the ParkMobile smartphone app, that gives them 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

CHANGES TO 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 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**.**

FOR A LIST OF WALK-IN VACCINATION OPTIONS at hospitals and local pharmacy same-day sites, click here: https://tinyurl.com/kbvemrbk

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

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