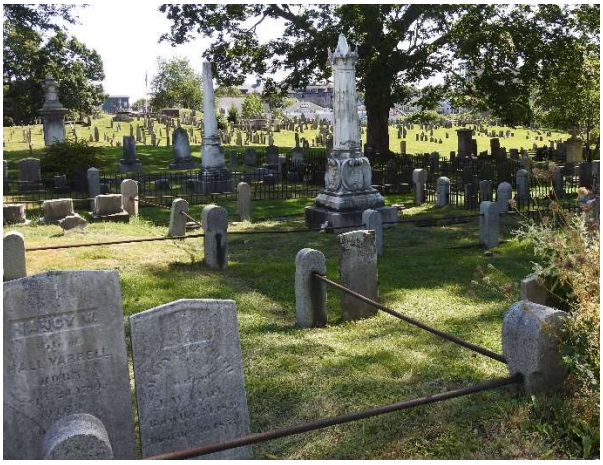
CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

City Newsletter
Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Questions? Email hotline@cityofportsmouth.com **and your question will be referred to the appropriate City staff for reply.**

NEXT CITY COUNCIL MEETING TUES JUN 21 at 7 pm. In person and via Zoom.

CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH THIS WEEKEND! Schedule of events on Black Heritage Trail of NH website. Please note that City buildings are open regular hours. https://tinyurl.com/2wty4h36



SAT JUN 18 NORTH CEMETERY HEADSTONE CLEANING PROJECT with the City's Cemetery Committee, 8:30 am to 12 noon -- Cleaning supplies and instruction provided. For more information contact committee co-chairs: Sue Sterry sterry10@ymail.com or Deidre Forte deedee.forte@yahoo.com

NHDOT ROAD CLOSURE MON JUN 20 THRU FRI JUN 24 -- SECTION OF ROUTE 4/108 BETWEEN DOVER AND DURHAM -- Between Grapevine Drive in Dover and Freshet Road in Madbury, starting at 9 am. To allow culvert replacement and the relocation of a utility line. Detour in place for through traffic from the junction of Mast Road in Dover to the junction of Route 4 in Durham. For more information, contact NHDOT District 6 at 603-868-1133.

PORTSMOUTH RECYCLING CENTER NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARD PREPAYMENT on fees for bulky items, drop-off or curbside pickup. Call 603.427.1530



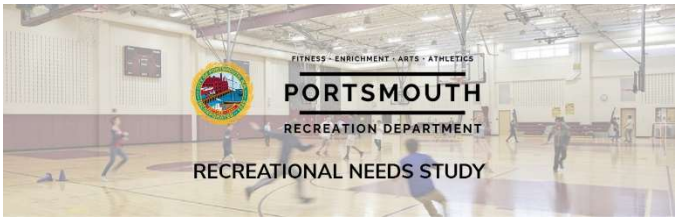
PEIRCE ISLAND OUTDOOR POOL OPENS SAT JUN 25 -- The schedule is as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Adult Lap Swim: 12 noon to 12:55 pm; Open Swim: 1 to 5:15pm. Tuesday and Thursday: Adult Lap Swim: 12 noon to 12:55 pm; Open Swim: 1 to 6:15pm. Saturday and Sunday: Open Swim: 11 am to 5:15 pm. Lifeguard Breaks daily at 2:30 and 4 pm, seven days a week. Fees are: Portsmouth residents $2 per adult (18+) and free for children under 18. Non-resident admission is $4 per adult (18+) and $2 each for children under 18. Thanks to a new City Council ruling, admission for non-resident active duty military and their family members is $2 per adult and free for children.



COMMUNITY POWER INFORMATIONAL EVENT, WED JUN 29 at 7 on at 3S Artspace -- Join the Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee and Portsmouth Smart Growth for free a community event with Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH) featuring**:**

- Sam Evans-Brown, ED, Clean Energy NH
- Julia Griffin, Town Manager, Town of Hanover, a CPCNH community
- Henry P. Herndon, Consultant, CPCNH

Go to event details & ticket information: https://tinyurl.com/mr24u9st
Go to the Portsmouth Energy Advisory Committee webpage: https://tinyurl.com/44zmzun2



RECREATIONAL NEEDS SURVEY STILL SEEKING YOUR INPUT! – Complete the survey and become part of the plan: https://tinyurl.com/bdfuzk7s
To learn more about the project and how you can participate, please visit: https://tinyurl.com/bdh2d6

CONSTRUCTION WORK THIS WEEK: For information about each of the seasonal DPW projects now underway, click on the drop down Projects menu on the DPW page on the City website.

FOUR TREE ISLAND PARKING LOT CLOSED MON JUN 20 FOR PAVING, 7 AM – 3:30 PM.

REVISED TRAFFIC PATTERN ON FLEET STREET-- ONE-WAY traffic from Congress to Hanover WITH RESTORED ACCESS to the Hanover garage from Hanover Street. Effective through Nov 27. All Fleet Street businesses are open and sidewalks are open to pedestrians.

SOUTH STREET MILLING WORK STARTED WED JUN 15– Grinding preparation for paving between Junkins Ave. and Lafayette Rd.

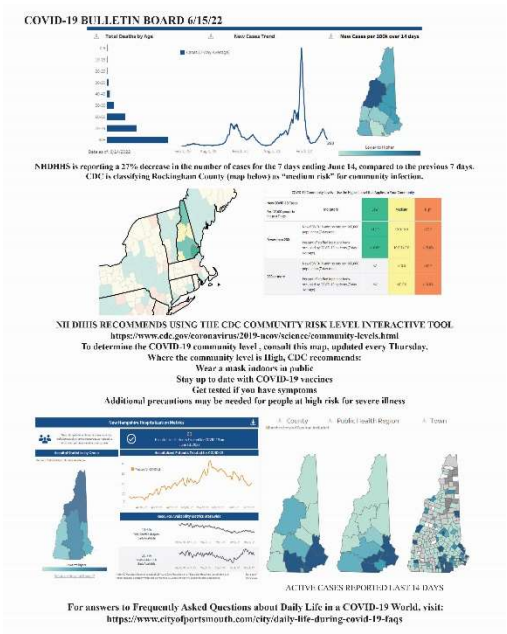
ISLINGTON STREET PAVING, WED JUN 15 TO SAT JUN 18 – Salem to Bartlett Street.

EVERSOURCE PROJECT WORK IN LADD ST -- Work hours are 7 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. **The work limits traffic on High and Ladd Streets between Congress and Market Street**. Flaggers will be on-site throughout all phases of the work to aid vehicle and pedestrian travel and to assure access to all business. **The on-site project contacts are:** For Eversource: Nick Kosko, 603-842-0416; for the City of Portsmouth, DPW: Marc Batchelder, 603-498-8449. Go to Eversource Project.

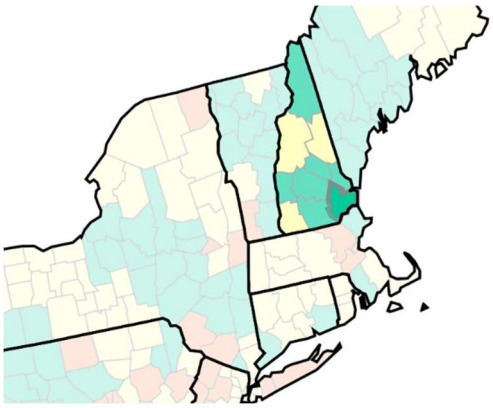
PENHALLOW STREET – Rescheduled setting of the Eversource electric pole at Sheafe St. this week, weather-permitting. PENHALLOW CLOSED between Custom House Lane and Daniel St. through FRI Jun 17 for the delivery of glass partitions. 4-hour window each day and reopened once unloading is complete. **DANIEL STREET SIDEWALK BRICK WORK** this week. Masonry work, framing and exterior elements of the building continue as does work in the west alley and south alley, preparing for fountain foundations and hardscape. Sidewalk brick repair on Daniel Street continues. **DANIEL & PENHALLOW BUSINESSES ARE OPEN. Pedestrian access maintained.**

SAGAMORE AVE SEWER EXTENSION PROJECT -- Impacting Sagamore Avenue, Shaw Road, Cliff Road and Walker Bungalow Road. Excavation work starts on Sagamore Ave. During construction travel on the streets will be limited, intermittently, to a single lane of alternating one-way travel Mon-Fri between 7 am and 6 pm. Go to the Sagamore Ave. Project page for more information.

MARCY STREET-NEW CASTLE AVE GAS LINE REPLACEMENT – Unitil gas company work continues to replace the gas main, all the gas services under the road and all of the main tie ins to the side streets (Pray, Partridge, Holmes, Walden and Humphreys).



REGIONAL COVID-19 BULLETIN BOARD – Go to a larger PDF: https://tinyurl.com/28xs27zb



CDC GUIDANCE ON ASSESSING COMMUNITY RISK: ROCKINGHAM COUNTY LISTED AS "LOW" -- CDC recommends using

its online tool -- COVID-19 Community Levels based on 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.**

VACCINES FOR CHILDREN UNDER 5, CDC REVIEW JUN 17-18 – NH DHHS planning distribution of vaccines for this age group starting Jun 20. Vaccines will be administered primarily through primary care pediatricians' offices due to their familiarity with the patients/families and with vaccinating small children. The pharmacies that have been participating in Federal vaccine programs will also be providing vaccinations though their policies vary. Check Vaccines.gov for more details.

CDC RECOMMENDS BOOSTER FOR CHILDREN 5-11 – Following FDA Emergency Use Authorization on May 17, t**he** CDC on May 19 recommended a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for children ages 5 to 11. Children in this age group who received their last dose at least five months earlier are eligible to receive the additional doses immediately.

CDC GUIDANCE ON OPTIONAL SECOND BOOSTER -- On March 30, 2022 The CDC updated their Interim Clinical Considerations for Use of COVID-19 Vaccines to allow for a 2nd booster dose in certain persons:

- Persons 12 or older who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may choose to receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their 1st booster
- All persons 50 years of age or older may choose to receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their 1st booster. The **second booster is recommended for those age 60+**
- Persons 18-49 years of age who received the J&J COVID-19 vaccine for both their primary series and 1st booster may receive a 2nd mRNA booster at least 4 months after their J&J booster.

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/

BOOSTERS FOR HOMEBOUND INDIVIDUALS –Call On-Site Medical Services, the company contracted by NH to provide homebound boosters, at 603-338-9292 .

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 food 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.

PORTSMOUTH NH 400 PHOTO CONTEST! PNH400 is now accepting submissions from Portsmouth-based photographers so the calendar showcases the best local talent, professional and amateur. There are thirteen prizes – feature placement of the winners' images in the printed calendar. One photograph per month plus a cover image will be selected. The calendar will also include the dates of all signature PNH400 events and special observances, along with fun historical facts and figures. *For submission details and the online form, click here* . **The Submission Deadline is June 30, 2022. PORTSMOUTH NH 400 ACCEPTING OFFICIAL PROGRAM PARTNER APPLICATIONS –** Organizations, groups and anymore planning a Portsmouth NH 400 celebration program, project or event is invited to submit an Official Program Partner Application. *https://tinyurl.com/mw5664bm
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).

PORTSMOUTH STANDS WITH UKRAINE
There are many recognized relief agencies responding to the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. You might consider one of these: https://tinyurl.com/2mtsejuh

RECENTLY UPDATED:

- **DAILY LIFE DURING COVID-19** -- https://tinyurl.com/2m463dne
- **VACCINATION FAQs**, click here: https://tinyurl.com/4smxnjf7
- **TESTING FAQs,** click here: https://tinyurl.com/57vhfbhx
- **COVID-19 TREATMENT FAQs,** click here



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 link below to sign up for the City Newsletter and/or individual email lists for projects. https://tinyurl.com/y2p67par