

UPDATE from the Board of Selectmen for Friday, May 29, 2020

The Board of Selectmen would like to express our appreciation for our first responders, essential workers and medical personnel that live and work in and around Newington. Our police and fire departments have been ready and able to serve all of the emergency needs in town and have helped our neighboring towns with mutual aid. Our transfer station and trash collection hasn't missed a beat – thank you Lenny, Craig and crews! While closed to the public, the town office staff has continued to work behind the scene, in the office and remotely to make sure that town services continue. Thank you to our residents for your ongoing patience, support and concern.

Governor Sununu has announced updated “Stay at Home 2.0” guidelines that remain in effect. Phased re-openings of businesses are happening, following strict guidelines that are industry specific. The Town Office and Buildings remain closed to the public at this time and online vehicle registration and tax payments are temporarily suspended. The outside drop box is to be used and residents will be called to arrange / discuss transactions.

June 2, 2020 is the last day to change Federal party affiliations for the Primary Election on September 8, 2020. This can be done with the Supervisor's of the checklist on June 2nd from 7:00PM – 7:30 PM outside of the town office.

The Pease blood testing outreach has stopped for the current time and announcements will be made when they are ready to start back up. Residents on private wells that have been tested for PFAS should have recently received results of the Exposure Study. The report is being reviewed at this time. Residents can contact the ATSDR at 770-488-0707 with any questions they have with the report.

Creative solutions for the situation we find ourselves in:

Questions & Answers:

Q. Is the State DMV open for normal operations such as registering a vehicle/motorcycle?

A. NH DMV has extended the expiration date for temporary motor vehicle plates.

See this link for full details: <https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/dmv/news-events/2020/20200318-dmv-transitioning-to-appointments.htm>

All temporary plates issued after March 1, 2020 are now valid through **May 31, 2020**. For information about temporary plates info, [click here](#). **Starting May 11th** appointment based services in Concord and Dover for motorcycle testing, or drivers' licenses that will expire before June 30, 2020. Call 227-4025 for motorcycle testing and classes. **A six month license extension can be applied for over the phone by calling 227-4020**. If you need to transfer a license from another state you need to call 227-4000 to schedule an appointment. Road tests for new licenses are not being conducted at this time.

Fox Point is open!

Residents are encouraged to enjoy our open spaces. The [NH State Parks](#) are also open. Do not congregate – keep safe distances from others and please wear face masks.

Thank you to all of the restaurants, businesses, first responders and residents who have pitched in to help our neighbors, connecting food, volunteers and other assistance to those who need them.

Your Emergency Management Team is meeting/talking daily to address the needs of our town. Call any of them or town hall if you have any concerns or ideas!

- Health Officer, Kevin Kelley 436-7640

Co-Emergency Management Directors:

- Michael Bilodeau, Police Chief 431-5461
- E.J. Hoyt, Fire Chief 436-9441

Food stores are operating normally and receiving shipments daily (although some products are in short supply at their distributors). For a list of food stores and pharmacies who offer delivery, <https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/food-and-pharmacy-delivery-options-on-the-seacoast>

- Market Basket Portsmouth locations Seniors-Only Shopping Hours, 6am-7 AM for those aged 60+.
- Please wear face masks. Re-useable bags are not being allowed at this time.

For the latest list of Newington restaurant food takeout, pickup and delivery options click here: <https://www.newington.nh.us/home/news/support-your-newington-restaurants-attached-is-a-list-of-all-restaurants-and-their-contact>

Restaurants are being allowed to expand to outdoor seating. The town is working with those that want to do that.

The Seacoast Farmers Markets are re-opening on May 23rd. In addition, many participants are offering direct food sales from their farms. [Click here for the Seacoast Local directory of these resources.](#)

Public Utilities: At a press conference with legislative leaders, on March 17th Governor Sununu banned all landlords from starting eviction proceedings and prohibited all foreclosures during the state of emergency initiated last week in response to COVID-19. He also barred utilities - including electric, gas, water, telephone, cable, fuel and internet providers - from disconnecting service for non-payment.

Residents who require assistance should contact the Portsmouth Welfare Department which assists **Newington residents** unable to provide for their own documented shelter, food, medication, utility or other emergency needs. Call 603-610-7267 or email WFDept@CityofPortsmouth.com

Governor Chris Sununu, the NH Department of Health and Human Services, and NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management have also mobilized 211NH to handle all COVID-19 related calls from New Hampshire residents. ***All residents with questions or concerns surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak can call 2-1-1.***

In Case You Missed It:

Town Hall, Langdon Library and the Newington school are closed to the public but services are still being provided via email or phone.

Fire Department:

Residents can still get burn permits online, they cannot be extended. There is a fee to the state associated with it. The link follows: <https://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net/>

Also, the Fire Department is closed to any outside people unless it is a walk-in emergency. Residents should either call or email if they have any questions.

Police Department:

The department has closed the lobby for non-essential police matters (employment

fingerprinting, obtaining police/accident reports) until further notice. We will continue to take minor incident and minor accident reports on scene or over the phone. Requests for reports can be made by calling the department at 431-5461. We are continuing all patrol operations and police responses.

Building Department:

See the attached link for details on building inspections:

https://www.newington.nh.us/sites/newingtonnh/files/uploads/attention_contractors_and_homeowners_2020.pdf

Transfer Station/Trash Pick up:

The Transfer Station remains open on its regular schedule and trash pickup is on the normal schedule as well. Note: Please dispose of disinfectant wipes in a separate trash bag. Flush only toilet paper or tissues in the toilet (even the wipes marked "flushable" can clog pipes).

For answers to other questions about the Newington's response to COVID-19, please email: Kkelley@townofnewingtonnh.com

For more information, visit the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

“Check back” as this site will be updated whenever new information is received.