



YVETTE M. AGUIAR
Town Supervisor

TOWN OF RIVERHEAD
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RIVERHEAD COVID-19 UPDATE – January 12, 2021

Town of Riverhead
Supervisor Yvette M. Aguiar

January 12, 2021 – 11:45 a.m.

Riverhead Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advisory

As of the most recent data available, the number of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases in Riverhead Township are 2,089 and 108,255 for the county. The State of Emergency issued for the Town was again extended. Town Hall, the Justice Court Clerk's Office, the Building/Planning Department and the Recreation Office at Stotzky Park are all open on a limited basis. The Police Station remains open. We urge you to continue correspondence with Town departments through US mail, e-mail or telephone. All calls to Town Departments will be answered and prioritized. Please call 631-727-3200 ext. 0.

STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED

Declaration of a State of Emergency continues as amended, together with the following directives:

- 1) That vital services of the Town of Riverhead shall continue, including the issuance of permits, as well as those provided by the Police Department, Sewer District, Water District and Sanitation Department. The Police Department shall continue to be open to the public,
- 2) That Emergency Operations shall continue,
- 3) That the following Town buildings and facilities shall be open to the public on a limited basis through January 31, 2021:
 - Town Hall, 200 Howell Avenue, Riverhead,
 - Justice Court, 210 Howell Avenue, Riverhead,
 - Planning & Building Departments, 201 Howell Avenue, Riverhead, and
 - Recreation Department at Stotzky Park, Columbus Avenue, Riverhead, limited to walk up service only for Recreation purposes,

- Yard Waste Facility at Youngs Avenue, Riverhead (2020 permits are valid through January 31, 2021. 2021 permits on sale February 1, 2021),
- 4) That the following Town buildings and facilities shall remain closed to the public through January 31, 2021:
- Highway Department, 1177 Osborn Avenue, Riverhead,
 - Municipal Garage, Old Country Road, Riverhead,
 - Riverhead Water District, 1035 Pulaski Street, Riverhead,
 - Riverhead Sewer District, River Avenue, Riverhead,
 - Town Hall West, 1295 Pulaski Street, Riverhead,
 - Riverhead Senior Center, 60 Shade Tree Lane, Aquebogue, and
 - George Young Community Center, 466 South Jamesport Avenue, Jamesport,
- 5) That all meetings remain cancelled through January 29, 2021, with exception of the following, which shall remain closed to the public (Designated meetings may be accessed by the public virtually, by livestreaming through the Town website or through the television on Channel 22):
- Business Advisory meeting scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.,
 - Board of Ethics meeting scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.,
 - Farmland Preservation meeting scheduled for January 12, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.,
 - Conservation Advisory Council meeting scheduled for January 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.,
 - Town Board work session scheduled for January 14, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.,
 - Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for January 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.,
 - Anti-Bias Task Force meeting scheduled for January 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.,
 - Town Board meeting scheduled for January 20, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.,
 - BIDMA meeting scheduled for January 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.,
 - Town Board work session scheduled for January 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.,
 - Planning Board meeting scheduled for January 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.,
 - Landmarks Preservation Committee meeting scheduled for January 25, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.,
 - Veterans Committee meeting scheduled for January 25, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.,
 - Architectural Review Board scheduled for January 27, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.,
 - Traffic Safety meeting scheduled for January 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.,
 - Town Board work session scheduled for January 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.,
 - Parking District meeting scheduled for January 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., and
 - Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for January 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.,
- 6) That all Town Board meetings will take place at 2:00 p.m. unless otherwise specified,
- 7) That the following Town park facilities remain open subject to face coverings for each individual over two years of age or safe distancing rules through January 31, 2021:
- Beach parking lots and designated beach permit only locations. Only vehicles with a 2021 beach parking permit will be permitted to park at beach parking lots and at designated beach permit only locations (day and non-resident seasonal parking permits are not available for sale),
 - Beaches – no lifeguard on duty,
 - Dog parks,
 - Playgrounds,

- Open space/park areas, including those at Ammann Park, Bayberry Park, Grangebelle Park, John Lombardi Park, Miamogue Point Park, the Sound Avenue Nature Preserve and Stotzky Park,
- Designated hunting locations at EPCAL (by permit only),
- **Baseball/softball fields***,
- **Soccer fields***, and
- **Skate park***,

**Low to moderate risk activities are permitted. Competitive tournaments of multiple games, meets, matches or scrimmages requiring travel from outside of Suffolk or Nassau Counties are prohibited.*

- 8) That the following Town park facilities shall remain closed through January 31, 2021:
 - Basketball courts, and
 - Hockey rink,
 - Recreation walking path, woods, and fields at EPCAL from January 3, 2021 through January 31, 2021 inclusive (hunting in progress),
- 9) That all other terms and conditions of Executive Order 2020SOE-61 shall continue.

TOWN HALL OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Town Hall is open to the public on a limited basis as follows:

- One person at a time per department on a first come first serve basis.
- All visitors will check in at the Information Desk where there will be an identification check and a wellness check.
- All visitors need to wear a mask, one will be issued if needed.
- All visitors will be issued a label designating their destination.
- One visitor in the main lobby at a time, all others to wait outside. Desk Officer will coordinate entry.
- Building/Planning will not allow visitors past the lobby.
- Any appointments made with the department has to be coordinated with the Desk Officer

UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

The most up-to-date, verified information and guidance can be found via the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Coronavirus Disease website: www.coronavirus.gov.

NYS LAUNCHES COVID-19 VACCINATION HOTLINE

New York State has launched a call center for New York State residents to register for the COVID-19 vaccination. Eligible individuals may dial **(833)697-4829** between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. daily.

You may also access the “Am I Eligible?” app at <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/> to determine eligibility, locate a provider authorized to administer the vaccine, and schedule an appointment.

NYS LAUNCHES “AM I ELIGIBLE?” APP FOR COVID-19 VACCINE

Phase 1A of the COVID-19 vaccination distribution is currently underway in New York State. Residents may determine which phase they are eligible to receive the vaccine in by utilizing the “Am I Eligible?” app at <https://am-i-eligible.covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>. Phases are determined by risk factor and medical need.

Once eligible, residents can use the tool to locate and schedule an appointment with a provider authorized to administer the COVID-19 vaccine. For more information, please visit <https://covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov/>.

NYS COVID-19 SURGE AND FLEX PROTOCOL BEGINS

New York State Department of Health has implemented the new Surge and Flex protocol, and has mandated all hospitals to begin expanding their bed capacity by 25 percent to prepare hospitals for a future COVID-19 surge. Retired doctors and nurses have been urged to return to service if they are able to do so. Registration will be renewed at no cost for an individual who completes the questionnaire through the volunteer portal, set up by the NYS Department of Health.

RIVERHEAD IDENTIFIED AS POTENTIAL COVID-19 MICRO-CLUSTER

Riverhead has been identified as approaching COVID-19 micro-cluster status, in accordance with New York State’s Cluster Action Initiative. It is imperative for residents to remain vigilant and follow proper social distancing guidelines, wash your hands frequently and wear a mask. Officials are strongly encouraging residents to obtain a COVID-19 test in an effort to prevent the spread of the virus. Please visit the Town of Riverhead website for further information. www.townofriverheadny.gov.

RIVERHEAD LOOSE-LEAF REMOVAL

The Riverhead Highway Department will be conducting a **one-time** pass through of residential areas to collect loose leaves. Please have your leaves curbside by 7:00 a.m. Monday of the week your area is scheduled.

- November 30 - Brookhaven Town line to Hulse Landing Road
 - December 7 - Hulse Landing Road to Northville Turnpike
 - December 14 - Northville Turnpike to Laurel Lane
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- Please do *not* put leaves out until just before your area is scheduled for pick up.
 - All leaves should be placed in one pile, do *not* rake leaves in a line across your property.
 - Do *not* rake leaves onto the road, they must be placed on your property, curbside.

UPDATE ON GATHERING RESTRICTIONS

Effective Friday at 10 p.m., bars, restaurants and gyms or fitness centers, as well as any State Liquor Authority-licensed establishment, will be required to close from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. daily. Restaurants will still be allowed to provide curbside, food-only pick-up or delivery after 10 p.m., but will not be permitted to serve alcohol to go.

Indoor and outdoor gatherings at private residences will be limited to no more than 10 people. This rule goes into effect Friday, November 13, 2020 at 10 p.m.

RIVERHEAD SENIOR CENTER DESIGNATED EARLY VOTING SITE

The Riverhead Senior Center, 60 Shade Tree Lane, Aquebogue has been designated as an early voting site for the general election and will be open the following dates and times:

- Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
- Sunday, October 25, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.,
- Monday, October 26, 2020 from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.,
- Tuesday, October 27, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.,
- Wednesday, October 28, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
- Thursday, October 29, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.,
- Friday, October 30, 2020 from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.,
- Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
- Sunday, November 1, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.,
- Tuesday, November 3, 2020 (general election) from 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.,

NYS GUIDANCE ON CELEBRATING HALLOWEEN

Please visit the following website for guidance on celebrating Halloween safely

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/10/13244_covid_halloweenguidance_102020-2.pdf

MOVIE THEATRES IN SUFFOLK COUNTY TO REOPEN ON OCTOBER 23, 2020

Beginning October 23, movie theaters in Suffolk County will be allowed to reopen at 25 percent capacity with up to 50 people maximum per screen.

State guidance on the reopening of theaters includes the following conditions:

- Masks will be required at all times except when seated and eating or drinking.
- Assigned seating will be required in all theaters.
- Social distancing between parties will be required at all times.
- Additional staffing will be required to control occupancy, traffic and seating to ensure compliance.

- Enhanced air filtration, ventilation and purification standards must be met by theaters.

UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR TRADE SCHOOL AND PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

Updated guidance for language schools, exam preparation and tutoring, automobile driving schools, computer training, professional and management development training, cosmetology and barber schools, flight training, lifeguard training, personal development schools, and other trade, vocational, and technical schools may be found at https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Trade_Schools_DetailedGuidance.pdf. Please note, this guidance does *not* apply to higher education institutions or pre-kindergarten through grade 12 schools.

UPDATE ON AVAILABILITY OF RAPID COVID-19 TESTING KITS

COVID-19 rapid result testing will be made available to every county in New York State. The New York State Department of Health will distribute rapid result test kits free of charge to local health departments, hospitals, pharmacies, and other health care providers. The rapid tests can be used to control new outbreaks, conduct surveillance testing, and will also be made available on an as needed basis to help schools in 'yellow zones' test students and staff as part of new requirements to monitor COVID-19 spread as part of the New York State Cluster Action Initiative. The NYS Department of Health will issue a letter providing details on how to access and receive rapid testing kits, to all local health departments, hospitals, pharmacies, and other provider organizations.

NEW YORK STATE CLUSTER ACTION INITIATIVE

All schools in “Yellow Zones” open for in-person instruction will be required to test 20% of their in-person students, staff, and teachers at least once a week starting October 16, 2020. All results must be reported promptly to the Department of Health, and will be made available on the COVID Report Card dashboard.

NYS LAUNCHES “COVID ALERT NY” APP

“COVID Alert NY”, the official COVID-19 exposure notification app created by the NYS Department of Health in partnership with Google and Apple, is now available. The app enables you to receive COVID-19 exposure alerts without compromising your privacy or personal information. Please click <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-and-governor-murphy-launch-exposure-notification-apps-help-stop-spread-covid-19> for additional information and instructions on downloading the app.

NYS FORMS INDEPENDENT CLINICAL ADVISORY TASK FORCE

A group of top doctors from New York State and around the world, have been appointed to the newly formed Independent Clinical Advisory Task Force, and will review every COVID-19 vaccine authorized by the federal government. After FDA approval, the task force will assess

each vaccine, and advise New York State on its safety, efficacy and effectiveness in fighting the virus.

NYS FORMS VACCINE DISTRIBUTION AND IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE

NYS has established the Vaccine Distribution and Implementation Task Force to design a program for the administration of COVID-19 vaccinations. The task force will be comprised of experts in public health, immunizations, government operations, data and other fields relevant to vaccine distribution and administration.

PRIVATE AUTO FOR HIRE GUIDANCE UPDATE

Updated guidance for Uber, Lyft, and other for hire auto operators may be found at <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/PrivateAutoTransportationMasterGuidance.pdf>

EXTENSION OF MORATORIUM ON COVID-19 RELATED RESIDENTIAL EVICTIONS

The New York State Tenant Safe Harbor Act has been expanded to include protection for residential tenants with eviction warrants existing prior to the start of the pandemic. The moratorium has been extended until January 1, 2021. Additional information may be found at <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-moratorium-covid-related-residential-evictions-will-be-extended-until>

GUIDANCE ON OUTDOOR DINING

NYS Executive Order permitting outdoor dining has been extended until November 3, 2020. NYS guidance defines 'outdoor space' as an open-air space designated for the consumption of food and/or beverage, which may have a temporary or fixed cover (e.g. awning or roof) so long as such cover **has at least two open sides for airflow**. This guidance can be found on the NY Forward website at <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-two-industries>

EXECUTIVE ORDER WAIVING OPEN MEETINGS LAW & REGULATIONS EXTENDED

NYS Executive Order 202.67, waiving open meetings law and regulations, has been extended until November 3, 2020. Please visit <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-20267-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency> for more information.

CIVIL PENALTIES FOR LARGE GATHERINGS

Large gatherings are now subject to civil penalties under NYS Executive Order 202.68. The Executive Order also contains directives for the Cluster Action Initiative. For additional

information, please visit <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/no-20268-continuing-temporary-suspension-and-modification-laws-relating-disaster-emergency>

NYS DEC TO ENFORCE LAW BANNING SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAGS

The NYS DEC will begin enforcement of the State's ban on single-use plastic carryout bags on Oct. 19, 2020. The plastic bag ban, which went into effect on March 1, was not enforced due to litigation which has now been resolved. Please visit <https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/50034.html> for additional information.

NYS EXTENDS MORATORIUM ON COVID-19 RELATED COMMERCIAL EVICTIONS

Executive Order 202.48, which prohibits the initiation of a proceeding or enforcement of an eviction of any commercial tenant for nonpayment of rent or a foreclosure of any commercial mortgage for nonpayment of such mortgage, has been extended through October 20, 2020.

NYSDOH UPDATED VISITATION GUIDANCE FOR NURSING HOMES AND ADULT CARE FACILITIES

Please visit <https://www.cms.gov/files/document/qso-20-39-nh.pdf> for complete updated Nursing Home visitation guidelines and for Adult Care Facility visitation guidelines, please visit https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/09/health-advisory_adult-care-facilities-visitation-9-9-2020.pdf

NYS DOL TO BEGIN \$300 LOST WAGES ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS THIS WEEK

The NYS Department of Labor announced that the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) program, will begin providing an additional \$300 in weekly benefits to unemployed New Yorkers this week. Please visit <https://labor.ny.gov/pressreleases/2020/september-10-2020.shtm> for additional information.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION

New York State has launched an absentee ballot portal where voters can directly request an absentee ballot for the upcoming November 3rd election. The Executive Order, dated August 20, 2020, allows any voter concerned about risk or exposure to COVID during the ongoing pandemic to request an absentee ballot. Absentee ballot applications may be submitted to the Board of Elections immediately, allowing a voter to get an absentee ballot due to risk or fear of illness including COVID-19. The Order further ensures that all absentee ballots postmarked on or before Election Day or received by the Board of Elections without a postmark on the day after the Election, will be counted. Ballots with a postmark demonstrating that they were mailed on or before Election Day will be counted if received by November 10, 2020. The Absentee Ballot Portal may be found at, https://www.elections.ny.gov/VotingAbsentee.html#_blank

NEW COVID-19 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL NY STATE SCHOOLS

Beginning Tuesday, September 8, 2020, all New York State School Districts will be required to provide the Department of Health with daily data on the number of people who have tested positive for COVID-19 in each school. The information will be publicly available on a new online dashboard developed by DOH, which can be found at <https://forward.ny.gov/dashboard-covid-19-data-schools>, starting Wednesday, September 9, 2020. This website will be updated daily.

The Department of Health has advised all School districts of the new requirements by letter. School districts will be required to send their daily testing reports to the Department of Health, and must provide a link to the daily dashboard on their district website.

NY FORWARD GUIDANCE ON CASINO RE-OPENING

NYS licensed gaming facilities (casinos, video lottery gaming facilities) may reopen on Wednesday, September 9, 2020, in accordance with the detailed requirements found at https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Casinos_Detailed_Guidance.pdf

AMENDMENT TO NYS GUIDANCE FOR PERSONAL CARE SERVICES

Effective immediately, personal care services that require the removal of face coverings may resume with the following directives:

- Responsible Parties are prohibited from offering personal care services that may require customers to remove face coverings (e.g., face massage, facials, face waxing around lip or nose areas, face tattoos, facial makeup, cosmetic lip tattooing, lip or nose piercings, beard trimming or shaves), ***unless the employee is wearing a face shield or similar barrier in addition to their face covering.***
- Any employee performing such services ***must*** be tested, at least once on or after September 3, 2020, for COVID-19 through a diagnostic test and receive a negative result prior to the employee performing services that require removal of a customer's face covering."

For complete details on the amended directive, please visit

https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Personal_Care_Detailed_Guidelines.pdf

NYS GUIDANCE ON AGRITOURISM

Businesses which include corn mazes, pick your own fruit and vegetable operations, hayrides and haunted houses, are considered low risk outdoor arts and entertainment and are permitted to operate under NY Forward guidance. New York State Farmers Markets and craft beverage

trails remain open. These following operations are subject to Low Risk Outdoor Arts and Entertainment and Public Transportation guidance.

Guidance includes, but is not limited to:

- **Corn Mazes**, permitted with the following conditions:
 - reduced capacity
 - Face coverings required
 - Social distance maintained between individuals/parties
- **Hayrides**, permitted with the following conditions:
 - Mandatory face coverings
 - Social distance required between individuals/parties
 - Frequently touched surfaces, such as handrails, must be cleaned and sanitized between rides
- **Pick Your Own Fruit/Vegetables Operations**, permitted with the following conditions:
 - Reduced capacity •
 - Face coverings required •
 - Social distance maintained between individuals/parties.
- **Haunted Houses**, permitted with the following conditions:
 - Reduced capacity
 - Face coverings required
 - Social distance maintained between individuals/parties

- **Petting Zoos**, are ***NOT*** permitted!

For more information, and complete guidance on Agritourism, please visit <https://agriculture.ny.gov/coronavirus>.

UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Due to troubling reports of students congregating on college campuses, new guidance mandates that if colleges have 100 cases of COVID-19, or if the number of cases reach 5 percent of their population or more, they must limit on-campus activity and go to remote learning for a period of two weeks. During that time, all athletic activities and extracurricular activities must be suspended and dining halls must move to take-out meals only. Please visit the following website for more detailed information and further guidance on higher education.

[https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Higher Education Detailed Guidelines.pdf](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Higher_Education_Detailed_Guidelines.pdf)

FREE COVID-19 TESTING SITES

The following is a list of free COVID-19 testing sites in Suffolk County. For further information or questions about testing please call 311. For further testing sites please visit

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>

- CVS Pharmacy, 107 South Country Road, Bellport, NY 11713
- CVS Pharmacy, Candlewood Road and 5th Avenue, Brentwood, NY 11717
- CVS Pharmacy, 311 Main Street, Center Moriches, NY 11934
- CVS Pharmacy, 2315 Middle Country Road, Centereach, NY 11720
- CVS Pharmacy, 1710 Route 112, Coram, NY 11727
- CVS Pharmacy, 520 Larkfield Road, East Northport, NY 11731
- CVS Pharmacy, 2000 Jericho Turnpike, East Northport, NY 11731
- CVS Pharmacy, 111 Depot Road, Huntington Station, NY 11746
- CVS Pharmacy, 831 Connetquot Avenue, Islip Terrace, NY 11752
- CVS Pharmacy, 470 West Main Street, Patchogue, NY 11772
- CVS Pharmacy, 729 Portion Road, Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
- CVS Pharmacy, 29 Havenwood Drive, Shirley NY 11967
- CVS Pharmacy, 977 Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, NY 11725
- CVS Pharmacy, 111 Terry Road, Smithtown, NY 11787
- CVS Pharmacy, 6221 Route 25A, Wading River, NY 11792
- CVS Pharmacy, 105 Montauk Highway, West Sayville, NY 11782
- CVS Pharmacy, 496 County Road 111 Building C, Manorville, NY 11949
- CVS Pharmacy, 450 Main Street, Farmingdale, NY 11735
- Rite Aid, 803 Montauk Hwy Unit D, Shirley, NY
- Rite Aid, 229 Independence Plaza, Selden, NY
- Walgreens, 1580 Route 112, Medford, NY 11763
- Stony Brook Drive Through Testing Site, 100 Nicolls Rd, Stony Brook, NY 11794

PSEG-LI FOOD/MEDICINE REIMBURSEMENT CLAIM INFORMATION

Customers who remained without power for 72 hours or more after Tropical Storm Isaias may file a claim for reimbursement at www.psegliny.com/claims until Sept. 16, 2020.

Reimbursement claims cannot be processed over the phone. Reimbursement is expected to take up to 60 business days from when a proper claim form is completed and submitted to PSEG Long Island.

Residential Customers:

May file claims for food spoilage reimbursement for up to \$250.00.

- Food spoilage claims of \$150.00 or less must include an itemized list.
- Food spoilage claims over \$150.00 must include an itemized list and proof of loss (store receipt, credit card receipt, canceled check or photographs of spoiled items).

May file claims for medication spoilage reimbursement for up to \$300.00.

- Customers must provide an itemized list of the medications and proof of loss (pharmacy prescription label or pharmacy receipt identifying the medicine).

Commercial Customers:

May file claims for food spoilage reimbursement for up to \$5,000.00

- Food spoilage claims must include an itemized list of spoiled food and proof of loss (invoices, inventory lists, bank statements).

SNAP BENEFITS FOR REPLACEMENT FOOD LOST DURING STORM OUTAGE

Current SNAP recipients may request replacement of food purchased with SNAP benefits by completing and submitting a form [LDSS-2291](#). This form can be downloaded in multiple languages as a fillable PDF and needs to be submitted to your local Department of Social Services within 10 days of the loss of food. Replacement issuances will be provided in the amount of the loss to the household, up to a maximum of one month's allotment.

NY FORWARD GUIDANCE ON BOWLING ALLEYS

As of August 24, 2020, Bowling Alleys may reopen at 50% capacity with strict safety protocols in place. Guidance and more information may be found at <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-bowling-alleys-can-reopen-50-percent-capacity-starting-monday>

NY FORWARD GUIDANCE ON GYMS AND FITNESS CENTERS

Gyms and Fitness Centers may re-open on August 24, 2020 with strict safety protocols. Guidance on re-opening Gyms and Fitness Centers can be found at <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries>. These guidelines apply to fitness activities and facilities, including, but not limited, to standalone, hotel, residential, and office gyms and fitness centers, gyms and fitness centers in higher education institutions, yoga/Pilates/barre studios, boxing/kickboxing gyms, fitness boot camps, CrossFit or other plyometric boxes, and other group fitness classes (e.g., spin, rowing, dancing).

Residential and hotel gyms and fitness centers must have staff available to ensure compliance with this guidance. This interim guidance is subject to change as the State will be closely working with local health departments during the initial reopening as a pilot phase to monitor compliance of owners/operators of gyms and fitness centers with this guidance, including inspections, and assess the public health conditions associated with gym and fitness center reopening, including any changes in COVID-19 transmission. Gyms and fitness centers should read the guidance document thoroughly, submit a business affirmation, and complete the safety plan prior to reopening.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES UPDATE

The DMV offers more than 60 transactions online, making it fast and convenient for all New Yorkers to complete transactions they need. The following services continue to be offered online: Select driver license services, such as renewing or replacing a license. Vehicle transactions, such as renewing or replacing a registration, requests for DMV records like crash reports or driving

abstracts, address change, paying fines and fees for suspensions, civil penalties, driver responsibility assessments, pleading or paying New York City traffic tickets.

Vision tests for online license renewal

You need to pass a vision test to renew your license online. There are more than 6,000 providers statewide that are enrolled in the DMV's Vision Registry and are approved to administer the vision test. Following the test, these providers enter the results online, saving time when you visit the DMV website to renew your license. A vision test from a Vision Registry provider is valid for one year. If you have not had your vision checked by a Vision Registry provider you can have your doctor or another medical professional complete a Vision Test Report (MV-619), which you can use to complete the renewal process online.

Mail-in/ Drop Box transactions

DMV is expanding the ability for New Yorkers to complete necessary transactions by mail or drop box, including:

- all original vehicle registrations and plate transfers
- license plate surrenders
- sales tax only transactions
- license and registration renewals (online option available)
- replacement of lost documents (online option available)
- address change (online option available)

We recommend you conduct your DMV business by mail in the County where you live. You can also complete these transactions by drop box. Secure drop boxes are located at all state-run DMV offices and available to customers during regular office hours Monday through Saturday. See our list of DMV office locations for information about the location of your DMV office and the services that it offers. When dropping off documents, customers must wear a face covering, and only two customers will be allowed in the office at one time to access the drop box and must maintain proper social distancing at all times. They should ensure their documents are filled out completely prior to bringing them to the DMV. Note that customer service representatives will not be available to assist with these transactions. Once your transactions is processed, a receipt, and/or all applicable documents including registration stickers and license plates will be mailed to you. **You will not be allowed to pick up your completed transaction.** Instructions for returning license plates by mail may be found on the DMV website.

Pre-Licensing Course Completion Certificates and Road Tests

Pre-licensing course completion certificates that expired during the COVID-19 emergency will be honored. Reservations are now available for road tests statewide. Customers whose road tests were canceled because of COVID-19 are being given priority for rescheduling. For the safety of everyone at our road test sites, all customers, which include accompanying drivers and any other passengers in a vehicle arriving at a test site, must wear face coverings and maintain 6 feet of distance from other customers and staff whenever possible. Face coverings include cloth, surgical masks, N-95 respirators, or face shields. Customers will also need to disinfect the passenger side of the vehicle with disinfectant wipes upon arrival. DMV road test examiners will wear gloves,

face coverings, and will have hand sanitizer. To maintain proper social distancing protocols, you should only arrive with one accompanying driver. You and your accompanying driver will have your temperature taken and be screened prior to beginning the test. If there are multiple applicants in a vehicle, and one of the applicants, or the accompanying driver, does not pass the screening process, none of the applicants in the vehicle will be tested at that time. Their tests will need to be re-scheduled.

SC DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT SUBMISSION

Suffolk County Department of Social Services has a free mobile application, available to county residents enabling them to submit documents electronically.

NYDocSubmit is a mobile app that provides individuals who have applied for, or are receiving DSS benefits, the ability to simply and quickly submit documentation to the DSS.

This mobile app is available for download on Google Play™ or the Apple App Store™ and can be used to take photos of documents and upload them to Suffolk DSS.

PSEG-LI TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS POWER RESTORATION UPDATE

PSEG Long Island employees and contractor crews have restored power to more than 220,000 customers affected by Tropical Storm Isaias, which was one of the strongest to hit the service area in years. PSEG reports that the challenges with the communications system did not impact restoration efforts and were still able to assess the full extent of the damage and dispatch crews to all impacted areas. PSEG further reported that:

- Damage was severe, and some outages could last for an extended period.
- PSEG Long Island understands how critical it is to share accurate and timely information with customers and are seeing significant improvements in the call center operations since last Tuesday's storm and are working diligently to improve all systems to fully resolve these issues.
- Customers to use the automated voice response system whenever possible: 1-800-490 0075.
- Over 3,500 line workers, tree trimmers and other personnel are now working around the clock, in 16-hour shifts, until every customer is restored.
- New outages not directly related to the storm continue to be reported and assessed, as on any non-storm day. They will be restored as safely and quickly as possible.
- Due to the large number of crews from other utilities brought into the service area before Tropical Storm Isaias, power restoration is progressing faster than can be displayed on the outage map. The map will fluctuate as the data is refined.
- PSEG Long Island is assisted by workers from New York, New Jersey, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Florida, Alabama, Kansas and Missouri. Many arrived before the storm began and were immediately available to start restoration work.
- Crews will work to restore critical facilities first, followed by outages affecting the largest numbers of customers, and then address outages affecting small numbers or individual customers.

- In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, PSEG has adapted their storm and safety procedures to follow public health guidelines and industry best practices.
- PSEG thanks customers for their patience as they operate under unusual circumstances to safely restore power as quickly as possible.
- Their goal is to restore power safely and as quickly as possible. They ask customers for a fair amount of patience and to assure they will be there just as soon as it is safe.

Customer Safety:

- Downed wires should always be considered “live.” Stay at least 30 feet away from downed power lines and immediately call 911 to report downed wires. · Electric current passes easily through water, so stay away from downed power lines and electrical wires. Don't drive over – and don't stand near – downed power lines. · Downed lines will be hard to see in the rain and can potentially be hidden in standing water. If you encounter large pools of standing water, stop, back up and choose another path.
- The safety of PSEG Long Island’s customers and employees is the company’s top priority. They ask that customers remain in their homes while crews are working nearby. If customers must speak with their crews, please practice responsible physical distancing and remain at least 6 feet away to ensure the health of everyone involved.

Other Important Safety Notes:

- To prevent carbon monoxide poisoning, do not run any gasoline-powered generators in a garage or any other enclosed space.

TROPICAL STORM ISAIAS DEBRIS REMOVAL

Riverhead Highway Department will conduct a one-time emergency removal of bulk vegetative storm debris, produced by Tropical Storm Isaias.

All debris must be curbside by 7:00 a.m., Monday, August 9, 2020. **Please make sure that fire hydrants and mailboxes remain accessible and are not blocked by debris.** The Highway Department will utilize heavy equipment for a one-time pick up commencing Monday, August 10, 2020 through Friday, August 15, 2020. This pick up is for ***storm debris only***. **Household garbage or construction materials mixed with storm vegetation will NOT be collected.** Once debris has been picked up, there will be no further collection and residents may follow the regular Town recycling pickup schedule.

The Riverhead Yard Waste Facility will remain open seven days a week through Monday, August 17, 2020, for residents wishing to dispose of storm vegetation debris on their own. All fees will be waived and a yard waste permit will not be required through Monday, August 17, 2020, however, a photo ID and additional proof of residency (registration, tax bill, utility bill, etc.) will be required, **no exceptions.**

NEW YORK STATE DROUGHT WATCH ADVISORY

New York State has issued a "Drought Watch" for four regions of New York, including Long Island. A "watch" is the first of four levels of state drought advisories ("watch," "warning," "emergency," and "disaster"). There are no statewide mandatory water use restrictions in place under a drought watch or warning, but citizens are strongly encouraged to voluntarily conserve water. Local public water suppliers may impose water use restrictions depending upon local needs and conditions.

Conservation tips for homeowners to reduce outdoor water usage include:

- Fix dripping and leaking faucets and toilets. A faucet leaking 30 drops per minute wastes 54 gallons a month;
- Raise lawn mower cutting height. Longer grass needs less water;
- If the community allows watering, water lawns and gardens on alternate mornings instead of every day. Less frequent watering will develop grass with deeper roots, and early morning watering minimizes evaporation;
- When using automatic lawn watering systems, override the system in wet weather or use a rain gauge to control when and how much water to use. A fixed watering schedule wastes water. Irrigate only when needed to save water and improve the lawn's health;
- Sweep sidewalks and steps rather than hosing them. Eliminating a weekly, five-minute pavement hose-down could save between 625 and 2,500 gallons of water per year depending on the flow rate.

For more water saving tips, visit DEC's webpage at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5009.html>.

DMV LICENSED DRIVINGS SCHOOLS

In order to safely meet the demand for driver training while adhering to social distancing guidelines, the State Department of Motor Vehicles has issued guidance to driving schools allowing them to conduct Pre-Licensing Courses, also known as the Five Hour Course, using established and secure technology, such as Zoom, WebEx, Go To Meeting and Skype. All questions or concerns may be directed to the DMV Driving School Unit at DriverTrainingProgram@dmv.ny.gov or (518) 473-7174, Option #3.

U.S. OPEN GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

U.S. Open Championship will be held at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck from September 14th to September 20th without fans. The USGA will put protocols in place to protect players and staff, including rigorous protocols for testing, cleaning, use of face coverings and social distancing.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE UPDATE

Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits will be ending with the weekly certifications ending August 1, 2020, unless Congress takes action to extend these benefits.

- **Traditional Unemployment Insurance (UI)** benefits are now extended for up to 59 weeks. Traditional UI lasts for 26 weeks in New York, and has been extended by both the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program, which adds 13 weeks, and the Extended Benefits (EB) program, which adds an additional 20 weeks.
- **Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA)** benefits are now extended for up to 46 weeks. Under Federal law, those receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) are not eligible for PEUC or EB, but are now eligible for up to 46 weeks of benefits.

In order to continue receiving your UI or PUA benefits, you must continue to certify every week. You do not need to re-apply or contact the NYS DOL, unless you are specifically told to do so. Certification may be completed online at labor.ny.gov/signin or via telephone by calling (888)581-5812 (for UI) or (833)324-0366 (for PUA).

For more information about extended benefits, please visit the PEUC and EB FAQs at <https://www.labor.ny.gov/ui/pdfs/extended-benefits-faq.pdf>.

LONG ISLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Long Island African American Chamber of Commerce is hosting workshops to assist businesses with the PPP loan application and Economic Injury Disaster Loan process. Workshops will be held on Tuesdays and Thursday at 6:30p.m., specifically for the PPP which closes on August 8, 2020. To register for all workshops, please visit <http://www.liaacc.org>.

NEW GUIDANCE FOR RESTAURANCES AND BARS

All restaurants and bars statewide may only serve alcohol to people who are ordering and eating food. Additionally, all service at bar tops must only be for seated patrons who are socially distanced by six feet or separated by physical barriers. Under current law, only establishments that serve food are permitted to serve alcoholic beverages. Citizens who see violations or are concerned can report complaints, including photos, to the State Liquor Authority at www.sla.ny.gov.

LIFELINE TELEPHONE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lifeline is an assistance program that provides discounts to help income-eligible consumers stay connected and save money on their phone bills. Call 1-800-342-3377 or visit www.askpsc.com for more information.

NYS COVID-19 RENT RELIEF PROGRAM

The COVID Rent Relief Program will provide eligible households with a one-time rental subsidy that will be sent directly to the household's landlord. Applicants will not need to repay this assistance.

The rental assistance payment will cover the difference between the household's rent burden on March 1, 2020 and the increase in rent burden for the months the household is applying for assistance. Households can apply for up to four months in rental assistance.

Eligible households must meet the following criteria:

- Before March 1, 2020 and at the time of application, household income must have been below 80% of the area median income, adjusted for household size. You can find your county's area median income, based on your household size: www.hcr.ny.gov/eligible-income-limits-80-ami-county
- Before March 1, 2020 and at the time of application, the household must have been paying more than 30% of gross monthly income towards rent. Gross income includes wages as well as any cash grants, child support, social security, unemployment benefits, etc.)
- Applicants must have lost income during the period of April 1, 2020 to July 31, 2020.

Please visit <https://hcr.ny.gov/RRP> for application, additional details and to determine eligibility.

INTERIM GUIDANCE ON REOPENING PRE-K THROUGH GRADE 12 SCHOOLS

On July 13, 2020, NYS released Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. This guidance was created to provide all elementary (including pre-kindergarten), middle, and high schools, as well as their employees, contractors, students, and parents/legal guardians of students with precautions to help protect against the spread of COVID-19 for schools that are authorized to provide in-person instruction in the 2020-2021 school year.

Responsible Parties must submit an affirmation that they have read and understand the interim guidance. Responsible Parties must prepare and submit plan(s) for reopening and operating schools during the ongoing emergency by July 31, 2020. The Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools may be found here,

[https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools MasterGuidance.pdf](https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Pre-K%20to%20Grade%2012%20Schools%20MasterGuidance.pdf)

RESTRICTED TRAVEL ADVISORY UPDATE

All out-of-state travelers from designated restricted travel states **must** complete the Department of Health Traveler Form upon entering New York. Enforcement Teams will be stationed at airports statewide to meet arriving aircrafts at the gate to request proof of completion from all passengers. Travelers who leave the airport without completing the form will be subject to a \$2,000 fine and may be brought to a hearing and ordered to complete mandatory quarantine. Travelers coming to New York from designated states through other means of transport,

including trains and cars, must fill out the form online. For additional information and the link to the DOH Traveler Form please visit <https://forms.ny.gov/s3/Welcome-to-New-York-State-Traveler-Health-Form>.

VISITATION TO NURSING HOMES AND LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES

Nursing homes and long term care facilities in New York may resume *limited* visitations, as long as the facility has not had any positive cases of COVID-19 for **at least 28 days**. Residents in those facilities will be allowed two visitors at a time. All visitors **must** undergo temperature checks, wear face coverings and maintain social distancing during the visit.

Nursing Homes accepting visitors will be required to send their visitation plan to NYSDOH and affirmatively attest that they are following all guidance outlined in the NYSDOH visitation guidance documents, found at https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/health-advisory_nursing-home-visitation_final-7.pdf.

Please visit https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/health-advisory_pediatric-skilled-nursing-facility-visitation_final-v6.pdf for Pediatric Skilled Nursing Facility Visitation Guidance, and https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/health-advisory_adult-care-facilities-visitation_final-v8.pdf for Adult Care Facility Visitation Guidance.

Effective July 15, 2020 in regions that have entered Phase Four, home visits for individuals living in certified residential facilities under the supervision of the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities may resume. Please visit https://opwdd.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/07/7.10.2020-opwdd_covid19_homevisits-doh-final.pdf for NYS Visitation Guidance.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR UPDATE

Nearly 2,600 businesses have joined the NYS Shared Work program, which allows companies to avoid layoffs by connecting workers with partial unemployment benefits. These companies have leveraged the program to retain or rehire nearly 45,500 New Yorkers — the majority of them during the COVID-19 pandemic. NYS Department of Labor has announced a growing number of positions now available on the Jobs Express Website. Currently, more than 12,500 available jobs are listed by businesses looking to hire immediately. Please visit jobs.ny.gov for the most up to date information.

New Yorkers receiving traditional Unemployment Insurance are now eligible for up to 59 weeks of benefits through the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) and Extended Benefits (EB) programs, up from 26 weeks before the pandemic. Please visit <https://labor.ny.gov/pressreleases/2020/july-14-2020.shtm> for additional details and to determine eligibility.

UPDATE ON SOCIAL GATHERING AND INDOOR RELIGIOUS GATHERING GUIDELINES

Social gatherings of up to 50 people are now allowed. Indoor religious gatherings may resume for up to 33 percent of total capacity.

TRAVEL ADVISORY GUIDELINES

To report an individual failing to adhere to the quarantine pursuant to NYS Travel Advisory mandates, please call (833)789-0470.

LONG ISLAND INDOOR SHOPPING MALLS

Indoor shopping malls may now open with certain upgraded air filtration systems in place. Please see <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries> for additional guidance.

FREE COVID-19 AND COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING

Northwell Health, New York State Department of Health, Suffolk County Community Recovery Initiative and St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church have collaborated to bring free COVID-19 antibody testing to the community. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.** Please call (833)422-7369 for appointment for all three locations.

July 13, 2020 – July 17, 2020 (10:00 am – 6:00 pm) Antibody Testing

- **St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church Parish Center**
523 Front Street, Greenport, NY

July 13, 2020 – July 17, 2020 (10:00 am – 6:00 pm) Antibody Testing

- **New Bethel First Pentecostal Church**
455 Station Road, Bellport, NY

July 13, 2020 - July 15, 2020 (10:00 am - 6:00 pm) Antibody Testing

July 16, 2020 - July 17, 2020 (10:00 am – 6:00 pm) COVID-19 Testing

- **St. Hugh of Lincoln Roman Catholic Church**
21 East 9th Street, Huntington Station, NY

PHASE FOUR NOW OPEN

Industries included in Phase Four are low risk outdoor and indoor arts & entertainment (museums, historic sites and gardens), media production, professional sports (without fans) and higher education. Guidance for industries eligible for reopening in Phase Four can be found at <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries>

Youth sports may resume as long as programs adhere to the applicable guidance found at <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationSummaryGuidance.pdf>

Bowling alleys, amusement parks and gyms/fitness centers are currently NOT eligible for reopening in Phase Four.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE UPDATE ON PROCESSING PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

For residents concerned that their property tax payment was not received, the Comptroller's Office is currently back logged and taking three to four weeks to cash and process property tax payment checks.

UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR CHILD CARE AND DAY CAMP PROGRAMS

Effective June 26, 2020, child care and day camp programs may increase group size from 10 to 15 children/campers. Full update guidance can be found at https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Child_Care_Daycamps_Detailed_Guidelines.pdf

SUFFOLK COUNTY TRANSIT

Suffolk County Transit has resumed front door boarding and fare collection on all buses. Passengers are encouraged to pre-pay their fares using the FastFare app, which is available for download through Google Play and the Apple App Store. Face coverings **must** be worn when onboard Suffolk County Transit busses.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR GUIDANCE ON UNEMPLOYMENT SCAMS

NYS Department of Labor (NYS DOL) is working diligently with other states to fight fraud and stop scammers from defrauding the unemployment system under stolen identities.

- If you receive a letter from NYS DOL about unemployment benefits that you have not filed for, you could be a victim of UI fraud. Report this at on.ny.gov/uifraud.
- Be aware that fraudsters may target individuals who they know are working and would not need to file for benefits. Check your mail regularly and open all letters from NYS DOL.
- Never share your SSN on social media

- Monitor your credit report
- Report any suspicious letters you receive from the DOL at on.ny.gov/uifraud

If you are contacted by NYS DOL about a current or former employee who has *not* recently become unemployed, or if any of the information on the claim is incorrect or suspicious, please contact the NYS DOL.

Stolen identities used to file fraudulent claims are NOT the result of a NYS DOL breach. Scammers are using previously stolen information obtained from previous major data breaches. Local, state, and federal agencies are working together to stop fraudulent claims as quickly as possible. Reports of identity theft will be fully investigated so your ability to collect benefits now or in the future is preserved.

PHASE THREE GUIDELINES

Indoor dining is permitted to resume at 50% occupancy, and personal care services including nail salons, tanning salons, spas, tattoo & piercing establishments may open with restrictions. Guidance for Phase three can be found here: <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-three-industries>

PHASE FOUR GUIDANCE

Long Island is tentatively scheduled to begin Phase Four on July 8, 2020. Phase Four Guidance has been released for: higher education, low-risk outdoor arts & entertainment, low-risk indoor arts & entertainment and media production. The Phase four guidance can be found here <https://forward.ny.gov/phase-four-industries>.

MANDATORY 14 DAY TRAVEL QUARANTINE

Effective immediately, individuals traveling from states with significant community spread of COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for 14 days when visiting New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Anyone traveling to New York, New Jersey or Connecticut from any state that has an infection rate above 10 per 100,000 on the seven-day rolling average, or 10 percent of the total population positive on a seven-day rolling average would be required to quarantine for 14-days. A list of the impacted states along with more information on the travel advisory can be found at <https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory>

PSEG MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

PSEG Long Island will support the creation of outdoor commercial spaces with targeted grants of up to \$5,000 to eligible and approved applications. Eligible grantees for the new funding include organizations that represent groups of area businesses, such as Chambers of Commerce, Business Improvement Districts and Local Development Corporations. The program will be on a

limited basis, while funding is available. The funding may be used for purchase of any materials that would enable the business district to support outdoor shopping and/or dining.

Please contact Alex Nyilas at alexander.nyilas@pseg.com for more information.

SUFFOLK COUNTY DESIGNATES “JUNETEENTH” DAY

An Executive Order was signed in Suffolk County designating June 19, 2020 and every year thereafter as “Juneteenth”. The Suffolk County Office of Minority Affairs is tasked with developing a plan to observe and commemorate “Juneteenth” and African-American freedom and achievement annually, with festivals, parades, musical events and prayer services, commencing June 19, 2021. The Office of Minority Affairs will coordinate these celebrations throughout the County in partnership with civic associations, faith-based organizations, local governments, and community advocacy groups.

IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING MANDATORY FOR ALL COUNTY EMPLOYEES

An Executive Order signed on June now mandates that all Suffolk County employees must complete Implicit Bias Training within one year’s time. The County will modify the SCPD’s nationally recognized program to meet the needs of the County’s civilian workforce. The program will be implemented by the Suffolk County Department of Human Resources, Personnel and Civil Service, and will be overseen by the Office of the County Executive.

EOC OF SUFFOLK OFFERING EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Through funding from the federal Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) program, the Economic Opportunity Council of Suffolk, Inc. is offering financial assistance to eligible individuals and families impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding originates from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Financial hardships include mortgage assistance, rental assistance, help with utility bills, food costs, transportation, funeral costs, medical expenses, etc. Applicants’ household income must not exceed 200 percent of poverty guidelines. For information on how to apply, please contact: Halim Kaygisiz at hkaygisiz@eoc-suffolk.com or call (631) 241-2119.

HOSPITAL AND GROUP HOME VISITATIONS UPDATE

- Hospitals and group homes will be allowed to accept visitors at their discretion. Any facility that chooses to allow visitors must follow state guidelines, including time-limited visits and requiring visitors to wear PPE and be subject to symptom and temperature checks.
- Group homes certified by the NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities will be allowed to accept visitors provided they adhere to state guidance and certify compliance to OPWDD prior to commencing visitation.

- The prohibition on nursing home visitors remains in place as the state Department of Health continues to review.

TOURO LAW SCHOOL HELPLINE FOR QUESTIONS ON COVID-19

Touro Law School has established a helpline to answer legal questions arising from the pandemic. Volunteer attorneys will provide referrals to their clinical program and appropriate legal partners on a wide range of legal issues. The helpline will be open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Students and attorneys will provide community members with free assistance or referrals on a myriad of issues including landlord-tenant, civil liberties, bankruptcy, employee rights, unemployment, stimulus payment, insurance and more. Please complete the intake form located at <https://www.tourolaw.edu/AboutTouroLaw/TLCResponse> or call (631)761-7198.

NYS MIDWIFE-LED BIRTHING CENTERS

The New York State Department of Health is now accepting Certificate of Need applications for midwifery birthing centers pursuant to Public Health Law Article 28. This directive to diversify birthing site options and support patient choice will provide expectant mothers more labor and delivery options.

YOUTH SPORTS CAMPS

Youth sports camps are permitted to open on June 29, 2020 for individual skill building and training. No contact or other training beyond day camp activities is permitted pursuant to the NY Forward Day Camp Guidelines. For further information, please visit <https://forward.ny.gov/statewide-guidelines>

SPORTS AND RECREATION GUIDANCE

Beginning July 6, 2020, sports including non-professional and non-collegiate sports and recreational activities conducted by gyms, fitness centers, and training facilities may resume in accordance with the Reopening New York Sports and Recreation Guidelines. All facilities are limited to no more participants than is allowed under the non-essential gathering restrictions currently in effect. For more information, and guidance determining “risk profile”, please visit <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/SportsAndRecreationSummaryGuidance.pdf>

UNITED WAY BENEFIT FUND

The United Way Benefit Fund is no longer available.

REPORTING COVID-19 CASES

NYS is directing local businesses to report all COVID-19 cases they become aware of to their local Department of Health.

PHASE TWO FOOD SERVICE GUIDELINES

All food service establishments regulated by the Suffolk County Department of Health Services must follow NY Forward Phase Two guidelines and modify their operations in order to protect food establishment patrons and employees from COVID-19 disease transmission.

- All out-door tables **must** be spaced 6 ft. apart, with a maximum of 10 people per table
- All employees **must** wear a face covering/mask
- All patrons **must** wear a face covering/mask **at all times**, *EXCEPT* when seated
- Food and beverage may only be consumed *while seated*

YARD/GARAGE SALES

Garage and yard sales for the sale of used goods by private individuals in residential settings are permitted to operate so long as sellers observe the following guidance:

- Occupancy of no more than 10 people at any given time, and social distancing of six feet must be maintained
- Face coverings must be worn by both sellers and attendees
- Adequate hand hygiene supplies (e.g. hand sanitizer) and regular cleaning/disinfection protocols must be in place.

Sellers may consult the New York Forward safety plan template for additional precautions that they should consider implementing during such sales at

https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS_BusinessReopeningSafetyPlanTemplate.pdf

POLICE REFORM LEGISLATION

Legislation has now been signed requiring state and local law enforcement officers to report within six hours when they discharge their weapon (S.2575-B/A.10608); requiring courts to compile and publish racial and other demographic data of all low-level offenses (S.1830-C/A.10609); and requiring police officers to provide medical and mental health attention to individuals in custody (S.6601-A/A.8226).

PHASE THREE GATHERINGS

Gatherings in Phase Three may increase from 10 to 25 people.

PLAYGROUND GUIDANCE

Playgrounds may open at the discretion of the governing jurisdiction

OVERNIGHT/SLEEP-AWAY CAMPS

Overnight and Sleep-Away camps will not be permitted to open this year.

SPECIAL EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Special education services and instruction required under Federal, state or local laws, rules, or regulations, may be provided in person for the summer term in school districts. Any district providing such services in person must follow State and Federal guidance.

Special education services may be provided at independent schools at locations not operated by a school district (e.g., 853 schools, 4201 schools, 4410 schools) under the following circumstances:

- A school district may request a student receive special education services at an independent school
- An independent school that receives a request from a school district to serve a special education student pursuant to Executive Order 202.37 or its successor may provide such services
- If an independent school chooses to provide such special education services at the request of a school district, such independent school must adhere to all safety guidelines herein applicable to the school district.

ISLAND HARVEST LYFT VOUCHER

Island Harvest Lyft Voucher is no longer available

MOVING NY FORWARD – PHASE TWO

Phase 2 reopening for the Long Island Region begins Wednesday, June 10, 2020. Guidelines apply to non-essential businesses in regions that are permitted to reopen, essential businesses throughout the state that were previously permitted to remain open, and commercial and recreational activities that have been permitted to operate statewide with restrictions. If guidance has not yet been published for your specific industry, but you are permitted to reopen, please refer to the NY Forward Safety Plan template.

Pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders, the following businesses remain closed:

- Malls - specifically, any indoor common portions of retail shopping malls with 100,000 or more square feet of retail space available for lease must remain closed to the public; however, any stores without their own external entrance(s) may operate via curbside

pickup in Phase 1 and 2 providing purchased items to customers at or near the general mall entrance and any stores with their own external entrance(s) separate from the general mall entrance (e.g. strip malls, anchor tenants), may open for curbside and in-store pickup in Phase 1 and all in-store retail activities in Phase 2

- Indoor on premise restaurant and bar service, excluding take-out or delivery for off premise consumption in Phase 1 and outdoor on premise restaurant and bar service in Phase 2
- Large gathering/event venues, including but not limited to establishments that host concerts, conferences, or other in-person performances or presentations in front of an in-person audience
- Gyms, fitness centers, and exercise classes, except for remote or streaming services
- Video lottery and casino gaming facilities
- Movie theaters, except drive-ins
- Places of public amusement, whether indoors or outdoors, including but not limited to, locations with amusement rides, carnivals, amusement parks, water parks, aquariums, zoos, arcades, fairs, children’s play centers, funplexes, theme parks, bowling alleys, family and children’s attractions.

NYS SUMMER CAMP AND DAY CAMP OPENING

Summer Camps can begin operation in June. These guidelines apply to all child care and day camp programs statewide. This guidance does not apply to overnight child care and camp programs, which are not authorized to operate at this time. See “Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Child Care and Day Camp Programs” for full details.

During the COVID-19 public health emergency, all owners/operators of child care and day camp programs should stay up to date with any changes to state and federal requirements related to child care program and summer day camp entities and incorporate those changes into their operations. This guidance is not intended to replace any existing applicable local, state, and federal laws, regulations, and standards. To access the full guidance document: Statewide Guidelines-Child Care and Day Camp please visit <https://forward.ny.gov/statewide-guidelines>.

SUFFOLK CARES - FOOD DELIVERY PROGRAM

Food Delivery Program for those who are homebound and in dire need. A box of non-perishable food for four people will be delivered upon approval. For families larger than four, two boxes of food will be delivered.

- If you are in need of food and do not have ANY access to transportation, please call 311, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. You will be asked to answer a few questions as part of Suffolk County’s assessment process.
- Upon approval, you will receive a box of non-perishable food items within 24-30 hours of your request. Non-perishable items will be dropped off at your residence via no contact delivery. All delivery requests received on Fridays will be delivered on Monday.

NY FORWARD – GUIDE TO REOPENING

<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYForwardReopeningGuide.pdf>

BUSINESSES SEEKING ASSISTANCE WITH REOPENING GUIDELINES

To determine which phase a business is considered for reopening, please visit

<https://forward.ny.gov/industries-reopening-phase>

Businesses seeking guidance on preparing to reopen their business and affirm their safety guidelines, please visit <https://www.businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward>

Anyone wishing to obtain CDC posters in preparation of reopening their business may find them at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/businesses-employers.html>

TO REPORT A COMPLAINT ABOUT A NON COVID-19 COMPLIANT BUSINESS

https://aca-prod.accela.com/SUFFCO_REOPEN/Welcome.aspx

NYS GUIDANCE ON GRADUATIONS

New York will allow outdoor, social-distanced graduations of up to 150 people starting June 26, 2020.

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPLY REQUEST FORM

As of Tuesday June 9, small business owners, non-profit organizations and faith based organizations who are located in Suffolk County will be able to access a new Small Business Supply Request Form located on the SC Department of Labor’s website where they can submit requests for cloth face coverings and hand sanitizer for employees. The link will appear in the upper left-hand side of the yellow bar link. The first 1,000 businesses to fill out the form will be granted their request and receive:

- (2) re-usable cloth face coverings per employee
- One gallon jug of NYS Clean hand sanitizer

If your request is granted, you will be notified by the Suffolk County Department of Labor and they will provide you with the information on the date/time that you can pick up the supplies from the Suffolk County FRES Donation POD located at the Suffolk County Fire Academy in Yaphank.

NYS GUIDANCE ON ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR JUNE 23, 2020 PRIMARY

The deadline to submit absentee ballots for the June 23, 2020 primary has been extended until the day of the election. To be counted, primary ballots must be postmarked by June 23, 2020.

NYS GUIDANCE ON SCHOOL BUDGET BALLOTS

The Governor announced he will issue an Executive Order extending the deadline for school districts to receive school budget ballots. To be counted, school budget ballots can be accepted by hand delivery through 5pm on June 9th and received by mail through June 16th by the school district.

NYSDOH NURSING HOME COMPLAINTS

The New York State Department of Health, Division of Nursing Home and ICF/IID Surveillance is responsible for investigating complaints about resident abuse, neglect, mistreatment and incidents occurring in nursing homes in New York State that are related to a State and/or Federal regulatory violation.

Anyone can file a complaint against a Nursing Home. All complaints are confidential and can be made anonymously. Due to HIPPA regulations, the department is restricted from releasing patient protected information regarding a complaint case. It is advisable to have one designated representative when filing a complaint on behalf of the family or a group of individuals since only the person who files the complaint will receive correspondences from the Nursing Home Complaint Program. Complaints will be accepted if the occurrence is within the past year of the submission of your complaint to the NYS Department of Health. Complaints may be filed by:

- Calling the Nursing Home Complaint Hotline at (888)201-4563,
- Complete and submit the complaint form online at <https://apps.health.ny.gov/surveyd8/nursing-home-complaint-form>
- Complaint forms may be completed and faxed to: (518)408-1157

In order to process your complaint in a timely manner, please:

- Type or print clearly
- Complete form in its entirety, including your contact information
- Include any names and phone numbers with whom you have already filed a complaint with.
- Attach copies of paper materials that support your concern **(No originals please)**

All complaints received about nursing homes are reviewed by the Department through the Centralized Complaint Intake Unit and appropriate action is taken. If you choose to provide your contact information, the Centralized Complaint Intake Unit will send you a letter which will acknowledge receipt of your complaint and provide information regarding how your complaint will be handled. Please contact the Centralized Complaint Intake Program at (888)201-4563 for further information.

NYSDOH ADULT HOMES/ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY COMPLAINTS

All complaints regarding Adult homes and Assisted Living facilities can be reported by calling (866)893-6772.

SUFFOLK COUNTY MUNICIPAL POOL OPENING GUIDANCE

- Municipally owned outdoor public swimming pools are allowed to operate and have public swimming at this time. This opening is at the municipality's discretion.
- Privately owned outdoor public swimming pools at hotels and HOA's and similar facilities are allowed to operate and have public swimming at this time.
- Indoor public swimming pools are not allowed to be open.

All public swimming pools must practice all of the required social distancing and face covering use and follow all CDC and NYS DOH guidelines for operating under COVID-19. For more information please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/aquatic-venues.html>

https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/03/cleaning_guidance_general_building.pdf

- Furniture and physical barriers used to facilitate social distancing must not create any type of safety hazard.
- Physical barriers cannot be made of glass
- Physical barriers shall be at least 5 feet away from the pool and safely installed
- A physical barrier must not present any obstruction to the supervision of the pool

Please be advised that for any public swimming pool to open for use you must have received the permit to operate for 2020. You are required to meet all operational requirements of Title 10, SubPart 6.1-Swimming Pools. Please be safe and maintain social distancing. If you have any questions, please contact chris.lubicich@suffolkcountyny.gov .

SUFFOLK COUNTY DOG PARKS NOW OPEN

Suffolk County Parks has 6 designated Dog Parks –

- Blydenburgh- Smithtown
- Cherry Ave – Sayville

- Gardiner – West Bay Shore
- West Hills – Huntington
- Robinson’s Duck Farm – Brookhaven
- Mud Creek – East Patchogue

Everyday rules for dog parks:

- Dogs must be up to date on their vaccinations and parasite control and must be on the leash before entering the area.
- Owner’s should keep unaltered dogs out of the park and should not use the park to socialize aggressive dogs.
- Don’t bring your dog’s toys to the park as dogs can be aggressive when their toys are threatened.
- Check with your vet before bringing your puppy.
- Cleaning up after your dog is expected and helps to curb the spread of parasites.
- Never leave your dog unattended in the park.
-

Covid-19 Rules:

- Wear face coverings in the designated dog parks
- Practice Social Distancing
- Avoid petting other people's dogs
- Be cautious of coming into contact with surfaces with in the areas such as gates
- Stay home if you are sick

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

The Neighborhood House

If you or someone you know is grieving a loss due to COVID-19 please call (631) 589-0055. This support group provides a community of support while teaching you tools to support your individual and unique grieving process. There is no cost to participate.

Some of the services provided are:

- Support groups for children and adults grieving the loss of a family member or loved one to suicide or overdose.
- Support groups for individuals grieving the loss of a family member or loved one due to COVID-19.
- Community workshops on suicide prevention, substance abuse awareness, social media safety, stress management, and grieving during the holidays.
- Balance For Health Care, lunch & heal sessions for front line health care workers in Suffolk County.
- Motivational speakers in schools focusing on resilience and empowering student voice.

SUFFOLK COUNTY RESIDENTS REPORTING HATE OR BIAS INCIDENTS

If you are reporting a hate crime, please call Suffolk County Human Rights Commission at 631-853-5480.

UPDATE TO GOVERNOR'S Executive Order 202.7

As of June 2, 2020, Executive Order 202.7 has been modified to allow for the opening of barbershops and hair salons, only to the extent and in regions consistent with Department of Health guidance promulgated for **Phase Two industries reopening**.

DENTAL OFFICES

As of June 1, 2020, Dental offices may now reopen.

NYS DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Beginning on June 1, state-run DMV offices in the counties of Albany, Onondaga, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, and the five boroughs of New York City will begin to process registrations and other transactions by mail, and beginning June 4, will accept transactions through secure drop boxes located at each office. County Clerks that operate DMV offices in the remaining 51 counties of the State are advised to follow the State DMV's timeline and guidance for reopening. Many other transactions are available online.

As regions enter phase 3 of reopening, DMV will offer limited in-person transactions in state-run DMV offices by reservation only, prioritizing critical services, and will resume all other road tests at that time. Until then, there will be no in-person transactions in any DMV office and reservations will only become available as regions enter phase 3.

Extension of Expired Documents

All driver licenses, non-driver identification cards and vehicle registrations that expired March 1, 2020 or after and vehicle inspections that expired March 31 or after were previously extended and continue to be extended.

Updating to REAL ID or Enhanced licenses

You cannot upgrade to a REAL ID or Enhanced Driver License (EDL) as these transactions require an in person visit. For the health and safety of our customers and staff amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, DMV offices are not serving customers in person. While offices are closed for such transactions, you can renew their current license or non-driver ID online now and upgrade to a REAL ID or an EDL in a DMV office later. Also due to COVID-19, the federal REAL ID enforcement deadline has been extended one year until October 1, 2021.

SUFFOLK COUNTY POLICE TRAINING

The Suffolk County Police Department continuously strives to strengthen our relationships and build strong partnerships with our communities of color. To that end, the Department has made changes and enhancements throughout the Department such as:

- **Bias Free Policing Training for All Sworn Officers**
- **Evidence-based Police De-Escalation Training**
- **Strengthening our relationship with our communities of color**

PROPERTY TAX EXTENSION

Town tax deadlines have been extended 21 days to **June 21st** with no penalty and interest.

If you require assistance concerning payment or have any questions about paying your property tax bill between June 2, 2020 – June 21, 2020, please contact the Riverhead Tax Receiver at (631) 727-3200 ext. 248 or the Suffolk County Comptroller’s Office at 631-852-1500. The Comptroller’s Office can also assist you with looking up your Parcel ID if you are trying to pay online.

After June 1, you **cannot** pay your property taxes at your local Town Tax Receiver’s Office. Property tax payments made between June 2, 2020 – June 21, 2020 must be made payable to the Suffolk County Comptroller.

Property tax payment guidelines:

Please confirm your outstanding property tax balance with the Riverhead Tax Receiver at (631) 727-3200 ext. 248 so you know the exact amount of your payment. Follow the directions below for various options for payment:

How to complete your payment to the Suffolk County Comptroller:

- a. **Mail** Send a check made out to the Suffolk County Comptroller to:

**Suffolk County Comptroller
330 Center Drive
Riverhead, New York 11901**

- i. Payment must be postmarked by June 21, 2020. If mailed, it is suggested that payment be made by Certified mail.

- b. **Online** Visit paymysuffolktaxes.com

- i. Click —Suffolk County Payments| (on the left-hand side of the screen)
ii. Click —Property Look-up|
iii. Enter your 19 digit Parcel ID
iv. Click —View Bill|
v. Add any outstanding balances to your cart
vi. Pay utilizing e-check or credit card

- c. **In Person:** Will be available after **June 8th**

- i. While paying by mail or online is strongly recommended, for those with limited access to a computer, online kiosks will be available Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm at the following locations:

- a. Hauppauge: H Lee Dennison Building, Main Plaza, 100 Veterans Memorial Highway, Hauppauge, NY 11788

b. Riverhead: 330 Center Drive, Riverhead, New York 11901

The Suffolk County proposal is still being considered by NYS but at this point Suffolk County residents do not have to indicate financial hardship to receive the 21 day relief.

NYS GUIDANCE ON ALL NEW YORKERS TO WEAR FACE COVERINGS

Starting April 17, 2020, all New Yorkers MUST wear a cloth face covering or a mask when out in public and in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained. Below is helpful information on how to make your own mask:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

The Surgeon General posted a video on how to make a no-sew mask – it is available here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPx1yqvJgf4&feature=emb_title

ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND COVID-19 LOANS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

<https://esd.ny.gov/economic-recovery-covid-19-loans-small-businesses>