

June 2, 2020

Town of Peterborough Weekly Dispatch

Keeping Residents Informed During the COVID-19 Crisis

As always, the Town House offices remain staffed from 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. A list of resources for conducting Town House business is available [here](#). If necessary, appointments for in-person interaction can be made between 8:00 AM and 12:00 PM.

CENSUS 2020

Peterborough's response rate for the 2020 Census is currently 68.2%. If you haven't already, now is the time to take 10 minutes and fill out the 10 simple questions that help determine Peterborough's federal funding and representation for the next 10 years. The mailed paper form is not required, and you don't need to wait for the "enumerator" to come knock on your door. It's a snap to fill out [online](#), and you can also fill out the Census over the phone by calling 844-330-2020. Let's hit 70% by next week!

TOWN CLERK

Supervisors of the Check List

The last day to change your party affiliation for the September 2020 State Primary is Tuesday, June 2nd. The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting Tuesday from 6:15 PM – 7:30 PM at the Town House for new voter registration, address changes and party affiliation changes. Please be sure to bring your current driver's license, non-driver ID or passport for identification purposes and, if you are new to Peterborough, please be sure to bring in proof of residency. Examples include current lease, current connected utility bill, current bank statement, or current paystub.

Absentee Ballots

If you are planning to vote absentee in the upcoming town election, State primary or State general/Presidential election, absentee ballot request forms are available [here](#) on the town website.

Dog Licensing

Did you forget to license your dog? NH State law requires that all dogs be licensed by April 30th. A current rabies certificate is required. Dogs may be licensed by mail, via the drop box out in front of the town offices, online via the [eb2gov](#) system, or you can call the Town you are here during regular business hours and we will collect your payment and process licenses while you wait.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our Town Together Campaign

Please continue to nominate people, businesses and organizations to be celebrated in the "Our Town Together" Campaign. Tell us about those who've inspired you over these challenging months. To nominate someone, send an email to khatcher@peterboroughnh.gov.

Community Task Force on Housing

The next Community Task Force on Housing meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10th via Zoom virtual meeting platform. Anyone interested in joining should reach out to Karen Hatcher at the email above.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Recycling Center Changes Are in Effect

Starting Tuesday, June 2nd, the Recycling Center will begin lifting restrictions on some items including construction and demolition debris; furniture; appliances; electronics; and cardboard. Cardboard will again be accepted as a recyclable, but it is requested that customers break down boxes before coming to Recycling Center to help maintain social distancing measures and prevent parking issues. Other restrictions as previously outlined remain in place. Please visit the full [announcement](#) on the Town website for more details.

Cont.

RECREATION

Cunningham Pond Re-Opening Update

Reservations are required to access Cunningham Pond. For full details, please click [here](#). The first day the reservation system went live went really well - 50 families reserved up to 2 weekly spots for the first two weeks of Cunningham Pond's opening! This is a very fluid situation, and Recreation will be making adaptations regularly to make the process smoother and adjust for restriction changes. The 6-foot social distancing recommendations are still in effect, and mask usage is recommended when on the property (but not in the water, of course).

Pump Track

Rec Director Lisa Betz extends her thanks to the pump track creators (Tim, Roz, Denise and crew) for helping to get word out about adherence to social distancing and group gathering guidelines. She says the track "looks awesome and we have been receiving positive responses so it would be a shame if we had to close it down due to folks ignoring the recommendations/orders."

HEALTH OFFICER

Stay at Home 2.0

Over the past few weeks New Hampshire has implemented [Stay at Home 2.0](#) to begin the gradual reopening of New Hampshire's economy. The industry-specific guidelines outlined in this guidance has been unanimously approved by the Governor's Re-Opening Taskforce and approved by the New Hampshire Department of Public Health.

All businesses must adhere to the [Universal Guidance](#) rules, and each business has additional guidelines specifically tailored to help ensure that both customers and employees are kept safe in that environment. Here in town the two businesses types that we are seeing the most questions about are retail businesses and restaurants.

Under the [retail business](#) guidance there are certain rules that all businesses (even essential businesses that have always been open) are currently required to follow. Four key points are:

- All staff must wear cloth face coverings at all times when in the retail facility and in public locations or shared staff areas (e.g. break rooms), even if other individuals are not immediately present.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer must be made readily available for both staff and consumers at entrances and exits to the retail facility, at checkout locations, and in staff break rooms and other commonly used staff areas.
- Customers should wear cloth face coverings at all times when inside the store. Signage and staff should request this before customers enter the store.
- Develop a process for limiting the number of customers inside a store at a given time, excluding employees and representatives of third-party delivery companies, to 50 percent or less of store occupancy based on New Hampshire's Building and Fire Code.

Key points of the [restaurant guidance](#) are:

- Tables spacing must be maintained so people sitting at adjacent tables are more than 6 feet apart, and to allow employees/servers to stand back 6 feet from a group's table (e.g. when taking an order) and still maintain a minimum of 6 feet from other adjacent tables.
- Customers should be asked to bring and wear a cloth face covering when entering and exiting a facility to protect other patrons and employees during the seating and exiting process, or when getting up to use the restroom. Cloth face coverings are not necessary while a customer is seated and dining outdoors.
- Reservations or call ahead seating is required to promote social distancing and prevent groups of guests waiting for tables. Establishments may use a text alert system to alert guests of available seating, an intercom system for guests waiting in their vehicles, or only one member of the party being allowed to wait in the waiting area for their table to be ready.

Consumers and business owners who have questions are encouraged to refer to the guidance. For issues specific to businesses here in Peterborough, please feel free to reach out to either the fire or police departments.

The Weekly Dispatch is published on Tuesdays to both the Town website and Facebook page, and is emailed to those on the Select Board mailing list. If you would like to sign up to receive this in your inbox, visit this [link](#) and enter your email where indicated.