Town of Mount Desert: Covid Update

8/4/2020 / 4 pm / Town Manager's Office

Town is busy! PLEASE consider your neighbors by wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. This helps us all stay healthy.

The Town of Mount Desert expects residents and visitors alike to abide by CDC and State recommendations for mask wearing, social distancing, quarantine, isolation, and handwashing. Abiding by these recommendations will help protect our island community.

The Governor's mandate requires Maine people to wear cloth face coverings in public places where physical distancing is difficult to maintain, as recommended by the US CDC.

Covid Transmission Update

- **MDI Hospital confirmed that they have had eight (8) positive tests to date.**
  - **3 Hancock County , 5 other (visitors/non residents)**
- **As of today 8/4/20, Maine CDC has confirmed thirty four (34) positive cases in Hancock County.**
- **The current case rate for the State of Maine is 29.7 per 10k people**
- **The current case rate for Hancock County is 6.2 per 10k people**

Maine Center for Disease Control

Public Safety, Municipal & Hancock County News

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT PROPERTY OWNERS

- **Town Office will be closing at 3pm on August 11, 2020 to prepare for the Town Meeting (3pm on August 12, 2020, rain date)**
- **The Town of Mount Desert Annual Town Meeting will be a Drive-In meeting held at the MDI High School on August 11, 2020 at 5:30 pm.**
  - **The Town of Mount Desert Annual Town Meeting to be held on August 11 at 5:30 as a Drive-In meeting at MDI High School will be available as a live stream on this link:**
    - **https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-K8Xxw_O7Jg**

  - As always, you will need to be present at the meeting in order to participate/vote. A minimum of 50 registered voters are needed to attend the drive-in meeting to meet the quorum requirements.
  - Check-in is required to participate
  - In case of inclement weather, Wednesday August 12 will be the makeup date.
  - At the vehicle checkpoint voters will receive their voting card, the 2019 annual report, the warrant articles to be voted on, and any other pertinent information.
  - After check-in cars will be directed to a parking spot.
  - All voting will be done safely from your vehicles by holding your voting card out your car window.
  - Voters will be allowed to leave their vehicles to approach the microphone for questions and comments on the warrant articles.
  - There will be a strong sound system that will allow all voters in their vehicles to hear what is happening on the stage, like the high school graduation event.
  - Call the Town Clerk at 276-5531 for more information
- Property taxes will be committed and due September 1, 2020.
  - Interest accrues starting November 1, 2020.
- Tax bills will be mailed out the last week of August.
- We will start taking Tax Club applications on September 1, 2020.
  - Taxpayers must be signed up by 10/31/20. For the current tax year, 2020-2021
  - Tax Clubs will be 10 equal payments from September 2020 to June 2021.

MDI Hospital

MDI Hospital Coronavirus Call Center :If you are having symptoms or think you may have been exposed to COVID-19, call your primary care provider. If you do not have one, reach out to our Coronavirus Call Center at 207-801-5900.

Remember: PLEASE CALL AHEAD

Virtual COVID 19 Community Town Hall event **August 5th from 3-4pm**

8/1/20 Press Release - Covid 19 Public Service Announcement

School Information: Mt. Desert Elementary & MDI High School

The track, tennis courts and playgrounds at MDI Regional Schools (AOS 91) are now open to the public, with the following guidelines:

- All State of Maine and CDC guidelines must be followed and adhered to at all times (social distancing, no large gathering, face covering, etc.)
- No team organized practices or equipment will be allowed or available
- Any person using the facilities will do so at their own risk. MDIRSS will not be responsible for any issues that may occur

- Only 2 tennis courts will be available at this time.
- Public restrooms will not be available
- Please note that the gyms and weight room will not be available
- Please note that all schools in MDIRSS are still shut down and not available

School Emails & Websites:

- Mount Desert Island Regional School System
- **Latest email update from Principal Haney and MDI High School - Preliminary concepts for return to school**
- **MDI High School: Extra Curricular Physicals & Insurance Information**
- **Latest email update from Superintendent Marc Gousse - August 10 : Final Recommendations for Return to School.**
- MDES Newsletter Link
- Mount Desert Elementary * Food for families
- MDES Family Supports Form

Government News & Mandates & Resources

Governor Mills: Latest Updates :

- Governor Mills & MaineHousing Expand Rental Relief Program to Help Prevent Evictions, Counter Reductions in Federal Unemployment Benefits
- Maine DHHS Announces Four Additional "Swab and Send" COVID-19 Testing SitesTo Protect Health of Students & Staff, Mills Administration Provides Public Health Guidance & Financial Support to School Systems Across Maine
- To Protect Health of Students & Staff, Mills Administration Provides Public Health Guidance & Financial Support to School Systems Across Maine
- Mills Administration Supports Child Care for Working Families with $8 Million Investment from Coronavirus Relief Fund

Representative Brian Hubbell's latest newsletter : Stabilizing the economy, climate action strategies, and public health measures 7/23/20

Other Government Resources

- Maine DECD Website
- Pandemic Unemployment Assistance
- Maine Tourism Relief Fund
- The Small Business Association Link to loan and grant forms: EIDL & PPP
- CDC Guidelines
- Maine CDC

Community Resources

- **Healthy Acadia Newsletter 8/4**
- Mount Desert 365 & Mount Desert 365 Resource Spreadsheet is a resource list for MDI
- Open Table MDI – Building Community, One Meal at a Time is delivering meals twice a week, free of charge, to anyone who requests them (MDI wide), as well as once a week curbside pick up. They are donation based and the food is healthy and tasty.
- **Northeast Harbor Library**
    - Preschool story time Mondays at 10am on their FB page
    - **Maine Interlibrary Loan is now active**
- Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce
- Project Open: A community spreadsheet letting residents and visitors know what island businesses are open
- Mount Desert Island Community Response is a resource list for all of MDI
- Bar Harbor Food Pantry
- Help Request to MDI Community Helpers

Ways to Help

- MDI Nonprofit Alliance : Share Our Stimulus ways to share stimulus money with local nonprofits.
- MDI Community Helpers
- Island Connections

Mt. Desert Chamber of Commerce

- Resource Lists for Businesses and Visitors

Acadia National Park

- **See latest alert from ANP : Current Conditions |**
- **Park Campgrounds will remain closed for the 2020 season.**

Island Explorer

Downeast Transportation, in consultation with its partners, has decided to indefinitely postpone Island Explorer bus system service for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Land & Garden Preserve

The Asticou Azalea Garden is now open each Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until at least early August.

Thuya Garden hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. Thuya Lodge will be closed for the 2020 season.

Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden will open July 30 through September 6. Thursday through Sunday between 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Little Long Pond, Asticou Landing, Terraces and Lookouts are open daily from dawn to dusk.

Land & Garden Preserve.

Mental Health Resources

- National Alliance on Mental Illness Maine
- Maine DHHS - Hotlines/Crisis Numbers
- Crisis Services

For more information or to add to this resource page, please email: manager@mtdesert.org