

Town of Mount Desert: Covid Update

July 20, 2020 / 2 pm / Town Manager's Office

Town is getting 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.

Maine can welcome all visitors from VT, NH, CT, NJ, NY without test or quarantine and all others who provide a recent negative Covid test or who quarantine for 14 days.

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.

Below is the detailed wording of the Governor's order:

This Order strengthens Executive Orders 49 and 55 FY 19/20 by providing the following:

- "Cloth face coverings" or "face coverings" shall be construed to include disposable face coverings of similar quality as well as face shields, provided that such face shield extends below the chin and covers the ears.
- Retail stores with over 50,000 square feet of shopping space (as defined in Executive Order 28-A-2 FY 19/20), eating establishments, bars, tasting rooms, and lodging operations and accommodations (as defined in Executive Order 57 FY19/20) located in the Counties of Cumberland, Hancock, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo and York, or in the Municipalities of Auburn, Augusta, Bangor, Brewer, and Lewiston shall implement measures requiring customers to wear face coverings. Such measures may, for example, include denial of entry or service. The establishment's responsibility under this section is in addition to compliance with all applicable Executive Orders, State of Maine guidance and the Restarting Maine's Economy COVID-19 Prevention Checklists, including the use of signage stating that face coverings are required.

II. ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT

- This Order may also be enforced by any governmental department or official that regulates licenses, permits or otherwise authorizes the operation or occupancy of eating establishments, bars or tasting rooms, lodging operations and accommodations, businesses, buildings, parks and campgrounds. Municipalities are authorized to enforce the use of face coverings on streets and sidewalks, in parks and other public spaces where individuals are gathering and not able to maintain at least six feet of physical distance from one another, and to enforce the gathering limits. A violation of this Order may be construed to be a violation of any such license, permit and other authorization to which pertinent penalties may be assessed. Pursuant to 37-B M.R.S.A. section 786, this Order may also be enforced by law enforcement as necessary.

Covid Transmission Update

- MDI Hospital confirmed that they have had five (5) positive tests to date.
- **As of today 7/20/20, Maine CDC has confirmed nineteen (19) positive cases in Hancock County.**

[Maine Center for Disease Control](#)

Public Safety, Municipal & Hancock County News

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT PROPERTY OWNERS

- The Town of Mount Desert Annual Town Meeting for Fiscal Year 2021 will be held on Tuesday, August 11 at 5:30 pm. It will be a Drive-In Meeting like the one that the Town of Bar Harbor held. It will be at Mount Desert Island High School.
- 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.
- Mount Desert's Annual Town Meeting will be held at the MDI High School parking lot as a drive-in to meet the State COVID-19 requirements.
 - Check-in is required to participate, and the meeting will begin at 5:30 pm on Tuesday, August 11.
 - 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
- Municipal Office hours are 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM
- Marriage licenses, new trailer, and vehicle registrations require appointments:
 - Appointments are available on Tuesdays & Thursdays | 9-11 am & 2-4 pm
 - Call 276-5531 for more information or to make an appointment
- Twice weekly refuse collection begins Monday June 15, 2020 and continues through to September 12, 2020.

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

[MDI Hospital Covid Updates](#)

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](#) - Can check out books from MDIHS Library throughout the summer
- [Latest email update from Superintendent Marc Gousse](#) - Safe Return to School Advisory Group
- [MDES Newsletter Link](#) 6/5
- [Mount Desert Elementary](#) * Food for families
- [MDES Family Supports Form](#)

Government News & Mandates & Resources

Governor Mills: Latest Updates :

- [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](#)
- [Mills Administration on 2020 First Quarter Drug Overdose Report](#)
- [Mills Administration Announces Nearly 20 “Swab and Send” COVID-19 Testing Sites](#)
- [Governor Mills Proclaims Today Ashley Frederick Bryan Day](#)
- [Governor Mills Secures Discounted Electricity for Maine from Hydro-Québec](#)
- [Governor Mills Statement Regarding Sappi Paper Machine Closure To Fight COVID-19,](#)
- [Governor Mills Strengthens Enforcement of Face Covering Requirement as Maine Reopens](#)
- [With Improving Public Health Metrics, Mills Administration Exempts Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey From Quarantine & Testing Requirement](#)

[Representative Brian Hubbell’s latest newsletter : Priorities to stabilize and support Maine’s economy](#) 7/15

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 7/14](#)
- [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

- [Northeast Harbor Entrepreneurs, Unfazed by Pandemic, Will Open Restaurant and Market](#)
- [Resource Lists for Businesses and Visitors](#)

Island Explorer

Downtown 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.](#)

Acadia National Park

- [See latest alert from ANP](#) : Current Conditions
 - The Park Loop Road and most hiking trails are open. Carriage roads are open, but beware of hazards. Park information is available outside at Hulls Cove Visitor Center. Campgrounds open no sooner than Aug 1.

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