

Town of Mount Desert: Covid Update

June 24, 2020 / 4 pm / Town Manager's Office

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.

Governor Mills announced that beginning June 26th, Maine can welcome all visitors who provide a recent negative covid test, in place of a 14 day quarantine.

The Governor's order requires Maine people to wear cloth face coverings in public places where physical distancing is difficult to maintain, as recommended by the U.S. CDC. The order identifies public settings as:

- Indoor spaces that are accessible to the public such as grocery stores, retail stores, pharmacies and healthcare facilities
- Outdoor spaces such as playgrounds, busy parking lots, and other areas such as lines for take-out service where the public typically gathers in a smaller area
- Public transportation such as a taxi, Uber, Lyft, ride-sharing or similar service
- Ferry, bus, or train
- Any semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area
- Under the order, cloth face coverings are not required for children under age 2, a child in a child care setting, or for anyone who has trouble breathing or related medical conditions, or who is otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

***Maine currently requires all visitors and returning residents to quarantine for 14 days through June 26th.**

[What does quarantine mean? Please click this link to see the answer to this question and many Maine CDC FAQ's](#)

Mills Administration Releases COVID-19 Prevention Checklists for Stage 3 Business Reopenings

June 24, 2020

The Mills Administration today posted additional COVID-19 [Prevention Checklists](#) for businesses and activities to voluntarily resume on July 1 as part of Stage 3 of the Administration's [Restarting Maine's Economy Plan](#). The checklists, written in close collaboration with industry leaders and

public health experts, outline health and safety protocols for businesses and activities to comply with in order to resume safely. The checklists posted today include:

- Spas and skin care establishments, including laser hair removal and similar services
- Outdoor amusements, such as amusement parks and water parks
- Indoor amusements, such as bowling and arcades
- Movie theaters
- Performing arts venues

Additionally, in response to feedback from businesses and public health experts, the Department of Economic and Community Development has updated guidance for some businesses already open under the [Restarting Maine's Economy Plan](#).

Covid Transmission Update

- MDI Hospital confirmed that they have had five (5) positive tests to date.
- As of today 6/24/20, Maine CDC has confirmed fifteen (15) positive cases in Hancock County.

[Maine Center for Disease Control](#)

Public Safety, Municipal & Hancock County News

- Municipal Office hours will be 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM starting June 29
- Please visit to participate in a survey about Community Policing in Mount Desert and Bar Harbor: <https://polco.us/n/res/vote/bar-harbor-me/community-policing>
 - This will be used to guide the July 7th Community Policing Forum
- [Maine Police Issue Statement "Law Enforcement in Maine 2020"](#)
- The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held Monday, July 6th, 2020
- Joint Forum with Town of Bar Harbor | *"How We Police in Mount Desert and Bar Harbor"*
 - On Zoom July 7th from 6-7:30pm
 - Discussion of Policy, Training, Use of Force, and Community Programs
- Marriage licenses and new boat 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.

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.

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](#)

Local Business & Mt. Desert Chamber of Commerce

- [Mount Desert Businesses that are Open for Business](#)
- [Northeast Harbor entrepreneurs, unfazed by pandemic, will open restaurant and market](#)
- [Resource lists for businesses and visitors](#)

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 and the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden remain closed for the time being. Notifications of opening schedules will be published as they are finalized.

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

[Land & Garden Preserve.](#)

School Information: Mt. Desert Elementary & MDI High School

Food Assistance:

The State of Maine is offering financial support for those families impacted by the pandemic. If your child(ren) qualified for free or reduced lunch during the time they were in school (August-March), you should qualify for the Pandemic EBT (electronic banking) card. The Pandemic EBT offers \$5.04 per student in the household per day.

Call 1-855-797-4357 and speak with an eligibility specialist, who will assist you in getting your card. (No more forms to fill out) You may also want to check to see if you qualify for SNAP or TANF benefits.

Note: All information is confidential.

[USDA Pandemic EBT program](#)

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](#)

Community Resources

- [Healthy Acadia Newsletter 6/15](#)
- [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](#) is doing pick up and drop off of books and a live online preschool story time Mondays at 10am on their [FB page](#)
- [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](#)

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](#)

Government News & Mandates & Resources

[Governor Mills: Latest Updates](#) :

Latest News

- [Mills Administration Releases COVID-19 Prevention Checklists for Stage 3 Business Reopenings](#) 6/24
- [To Protect Public Health, Mills Administration Postpones Reopening of Indoor Bar Service Across Maine](#) 6/22
- [Governor Mills urges USDA to add maple syrup to the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program](#) 6/22
- [Governor Mills Statement on Juneteenth](#) 6/19
- [Mills Administration Releases Guidance for Town Meetings and Elections](#) 6/16
- [Mills Administration Announces That Indoor Dining in Androscoggin, Cumberland & York Counties Can Resume on June 17 With Added Health and Safety Precautions](#) 6/15
- [Representative Brian Hubbell's latest newsletter : Leading the way](#) 6/12
- [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](#)

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