

Town of Mount Desert: Covid Update

9/24/2020 / 4 pm / Town Manager's Office

Mask. Distance. Wash Hands. Repeat.

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.

The Mills Administration announced yesterday that, effective immediately, travelers from Massachusetts are exempt from the requirement to get a negative COVID-19 test or quarantine for 14 days.

The decision comes after the latest review of public health information by the Maine Department of Health and Human Services and Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, which determined that Massachusetts now resembles exempt states like Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey in its COVID-19 prevalence and positivity rate.

Maine's quarantine or testing alternative requirement, as established by the [Keep Maine Healthy Plan](#), has helped protect the health and safety of Maine people since its implementation over three months ago, and been replicated by numerous other states since then, including Massachusetts. This change includes Maine residents who may be traveling back to Maine from Massachusetts after visits for services such as health care.

Covid Transmission Update

- MDI Hospital confirmed that they have had 10 positive tests to date.
 - 5 Hancock County , 5 other (visitors/non residents)
- As of today 9/24/20, Maine CDC has confirmed 53 positive cases in Hancock County.
- The current case rate for the State of Maine is 39 per 10k people
- The current case rate for Hancock County is 9.7 per 10k people
- There was a positive Covid -19 test last week at the MDI hospital that was confirmed to be a Bar Harbor resident. During the Covid-19 Downeast Task Force meeting, the hospital said the community should not be concerned, but are reluctant to say too much because of privacy issues. Dr. JR Krevans said, "If you have not heard from the CDC by now you should have nothing to worry about.". Dr. Julian Kuffler added, "Everything

worked the way it was supposed to work with a positive test; cooperation among agencies, contact tracing, patient care and it appears to be contained.” He cautioned that you don't want people to be unwilling to come forward with symptoms because they are afraid of the public's reaction.

- Currently, the hospital is working on putting out a statement.
- Other news- COA has done 880 covid tests on staff, faculty and students. Only one test was positive but that was a student who was positive in April and is still giving off antibodies. This person has completely recovered from the virus.
- The MDI Hospital Covid testing tent will come down on October 15th.

[Maine Center for Disease Control](#)

Public Safety, Municipal & Hancock County News

- The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be 10/5 at 4pm on Zoom
 - <https://zoom.us/j/248566175>
 - Meeting ID: 248 566 175
- The Main Street Village Improvement Project will begin in October after Indigenous People's Day.

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**

School Information: Mt. Desert Elementary & MDI High School

- **MDES requests donations of Lysol and Clorox Wipes**

School Emails & Websites:

- [Mount Desert Island Regional School System](#)
- [Latest email update from Principal Haney and MDI High School](#) : First Day of School
 - [MDI High School: Extra Curricular Physicals & Insurance Information](#)
- [Latest email update from Superintendent Marc Gousse](#) 9/20 Update on voluntary staff testing
- [MDES Newsletter Link](#)
 - [9/19 Updated Newsletter](#) Important return to “in person” school information

Government News & Mandates & Resources

Governor Mills: Latest Updates :

- [To Protect the Health of Students and Staff, Governor Mills Announces Additional Financial Support for School Systems Across Maine 9/23](#)
- [PUC Announces Selections in Largest Procurement of Renewable Energy in Maine's History Under Law Signed by Governor Mills 9/22](#)
- [Governor Mills Announces Phase 2 of Maine Economic Recovery Grant Program Funding for Expanded Pool of Maine Businesses & Non-Profits 9/22](#)
- [Governor Mills Signs Curtailment Order to Maintain Budget Stability Amid COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [With Deadline Approaching, Governor Mills Encourages Maine Small Businesses to Apply for Economic Recovery Grant Program 9/8](#)
- [MPA, MSBA, MSSA & Mills Administration Statements on Fall Sports in Maine](#)
- [As State Monitors Outbreaks and Schools Resume for Fall, Governor Mills Extends State of Civil Emergency](#)
- [Governor Mills Signs Executive Order to Facilitate Voting, Protect Health of Voters & Election Officials Amid COVID-19 Pandemic 8/27](#)

Representative Brian Hubbell's latest newsletter : Scientific assessment of what is in store for Maine from climate change 9/14/20

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 9/22](#)
- [Mount Desert 365 & Mount Desert 365 Resource Spreadsheet Open Table MDI – Building Community, One Meal at a Time](#)
- [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](#)

- [Bar Harbor Food Pantry](#)
- [Help Request to MDI Community Helpers](#)

Ways to Help

- [MDI Nonprofit Alliance : Share Our Stimulus](#)
- [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.](#)**
- **[Vehicle Reservations will be required from 10/1-10/18 Click for more information](#)**

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

[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