

Town of Bar Harbor: Covid Update

Mask. Distance. Wash Hands. Repeat.

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

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.

Town Manager Question of the Week:

Q: I heard that we had a positive Covid 19 case in Bar Harbor, can you tell me about that?

A: 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.

Covid Transmission Update

- MDI Hospital confirmed that they have had 10 positive tests to date.
 - 5 Hancock County residents
 - 5 (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

[Maine Center for Disease Control](#)

Public Safety & Municipal News

- Town Council meets next on 10/6 at 5 PM
 - Can be viewed live at townhallstreams.com or on Spectrum Cable Channel 1303

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. Calling ahead helps our dedicated health care professionals provide the best possible care and protects those in our community who are most vulnerable. Remember: **PLEASE CALL AHEAD**

School Information: Conners Emerson & MDI High School

- School Emails and Websites
 - <http://www.mdirss.org/>
 - [Latest email update from Principal Haney and MDI High School](#) 9/8 First Day of School Schedule
 - [Latest email update from Conners Emerson School](#) 9/22
 - [Tiger Talk Newsletter : BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION](#)
 - [Latest email update from Superintendent Marc Gousse](#) 9/20 Update on voluntary staff testing

Government News & Mandates

[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](#)
- [Governor Mills Announces Phase 2 of Maine Economic Recovery Grant Program Funding for Expanded Pool of Maine Businesses & Non-Profits](#)
- [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](#)

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

Other Government Resources:

- [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance](#)
- [Maine Tourism Relief Fund](#) : Apply for assistance beginning May 5
- [The Small Business Association](#) Link to loan and grant forms: EIDL & PPP
- [CDC Guidelines](#)
- [Maine CDC](#)

Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce

If you have ideas that would help Bar Harbor businesses during this time, please email concepts to Chamber Director Alf Anderson: alf@barharborinfo.com

<https://www.visitbarharbor.com/member-center-coronavirus-resources>

Community Resources

- [Healthy Acadia Newsletter 9/22](#)
- [Open Table MDI – Building Community, One Meal at a Time .](#)
- [Jesup Memorial Library Interlibrary Loan is now active in Maine](#)
- [Mount Desert 365 Resource Spreadsheet](#)
- [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](#)

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](#)

Land & Garden Preserve

[Land & Garden Preserve.](#)

Mental Health

[National Alliance on Mental Illness Maine](#)

[Maine DHHS - Hotlines/Crisis Numbers](#)

[Crisis Services](#)

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.

For more information or to add to this resource page, please email: nina@barharbormaine.gov