



April 18, 2020

Town Manager's Weekly Update

Dear Barrington Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners,

Thank you! Thank you for staying home, limiting social interaction, washing your hands, and using face coverings in public. Rhode Island is doing far better than earlier models predicted; however, we are still in-between two major hot spots, which means it is increasingly important that we continue to follow stay at home orders and other health directives. We all have the ability to slow the spread!

I will again remind residents and visitors to keep our first responders and healthcare workers in mind. Every time you put your own health at risk, you are putting their health at risk, as well.



Barrington Heroes of the Day

Today's heroes are the **Barrington students** that have adapted to the new reality of distance learning. It is difficult to stay attentive and focused, but they are knocking it out of the park! Congratulations to all our distant learners, kindergarten to Grade 12! Keep it up!

Important Information:

If you are feeling sick and exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, schedule a test:

- Call your healthcare provider to get an order for a COVID-19 test at one of the drive-up testing sites at URI in South Kingstown, at CCRI in Warwick, or at Rhode Island College in Providence.
- Go to the CVS [website](#) to be pre-screened for testing and to get an appointment (adult 18+ only).

Keeping Each Other Safe:

- Stay at home, unless you are getting food, medicine, gas, or going to work.
- Social gatherings limited to 5 people or less.
- Keep a log of the people you have come in contact with every day.
 - This will assist the Dept. of Health to trace your contacts in the event that you contract COVID-19.
- Wear a face covering in public. CDC guidance on face coverings, [here](#).
- Restaurants open for takeout and delivery only, this includes wine and beer.
- Public entertainment, recreation and close contact businesses must remain closed.
- Domestic or international travel: people returning to R.I. for non-work purposes by any means of transportation must quarantine for 14 days.
- Tele-health is covered under health insurance policies.

COVID-19 has affected all corners of our community in some way. There is assistance available for families, mental health needs, those unemployed, and businesses.

Individuals and Families

- If you are unemployed or have been laid off, please contact the Department of Labor and Training (DLT). Their factsheet will help guide you and answer your questions ([English](#), [Spanish](#))
- The Federal CARES Act extended unemployment benefits for gig economy workers, small business owners, workers for hire, self-employed individuals and those who are otherwise ineligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits. Apply [here](#).
- There are over 2,000 job openings in R.I. Visit [EmployRI](#).
- Utility shut-offs have been suspended until May 8th. Evictions have been suspended until May 17th.
- Free "Grab and Go" meals are available for children throughout Rhode Island. Locations [here](#).
- Health Source RI will remain open for new subscribers until April 30th. [Visit](#)
- Rhode Island partnered with Care.com to increase childcare access. In addition to providing 90 days of free, premium access to their website, Care.com has created portals specifically for frontline workers and caregivers in R.I.- www.care.com/rineed.
- Hotel rooms are available at reduced costs for quarantine/isolation at [Visit RI Havens](#).
- Tap-In Food Pantry is open M-F from 9:00 - Noon at the Barrington Presbyterian Church.
- BH Link: If you or a someone you love is going through a mental health or substance use crisis, there is help available: [401-414-LINK \(5465\)](tel:401-414-LINK(5465)), <https://www.bhlink.org/>, Triage Center: 975 Waterman Ave., East Providence
- For mental health assistance for children under 18, please call [855-KID\(543\)-LINK\(5465\)](tel:855-KID(543)-LINK(5465))
- The R.I. United Way 211 hotline is available 24 hours, 7 days a week to answer questions and connect you with the supports you may need.

Businesses and Non-Profits

- SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Loan Advances: [Questions](#) and [Application](#)
- SBA Paycheck Protection Program: [Questions](#) and [Application](#)
- Short-term bridge loans for restaurants and microbusinesses: R.I. restaurants and small businesses are eligible (businesses must have 1 to 10 employees; restaurants may have any number of employees). Applications [here](#).
- [Tech Support for RI Businesses](#)
- R.I. Small Business Hotline: (401) 521-HELP
- R.I. nonprofit organizations at the forefront of COVID-19 response can apply for grants from the Rhode Island Foundation/United Way [here](#) or [here in Spanish](#).
- Rhode Island Superior Court [business protection program](#) for those that may have defaulted on their debts during this time
- State and federal personal and business corporation tax filings have been extended until July 15th.

Municipal Services

As a reminder, the Barrington Town Hall staff are also here to help. Town Hall is closed to visitors but staff is available at 247-1900. Appointments are required for marriage licenses and real estate recordings.

Voting

As a reminder, Rhode Island's Presidential Primary has been moved to June 2nd, and voting will be done through mail ballot. The Secretary of State's Office will be sending mail ballots to voters. To make sure your information and address is up-to-date, visit:

<https://vote.sos.ri.gov/Voter/UpdateYourVoterRecord>

Please visit the [R.I. Dept. of Health website](#) for factual up-to-date information or call 401-222-8022.

Thank you for your support and cooperation during this unprecedented time.

Stay safe and healthy,

Jim . . .