



BARRINGTON TOWN MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear Barrington Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners,

I hope you are doing well and staying safe!

Barrington has seen a slight reduction in our COVID-19 rate- currently 5.3%. Residents efforts to keep their groups small and our efforts to increase testing are working to reduce cases and quickly identifying positives. On our first day of our local rapid testing site, over 400 people were tested. Please continue to keep vigilant.












COVID-19 Guidelines

The state has extended current guidelines through mid-February. As a reminder:

- Wear a mask when outside of your home, even in the outdoors.
 - Consider masking when walking down the sidewalk or jogging and biking.
- Keep your social interactions limited to members of your own household.
- Self-isolate whenever possible. Work from home, shop locally online.

Protect Your Household

Social gatherings limited to your household.

CATEGORY	
 IN-PERSON SCHOOL	PreK-8 open, HS limited (optional), higher ed remote
 CHILD CARE	Open
 MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION	Open
 PERSONAL SERVICES	Open, early closures
 RETAIL	1 person per 100 sq. ft. (big box = 1 per 150 sq. ft.)
 HOUSES OF WORSHIP	25% capacity, maximum of 125 people
 BAR AREAS	Closed
 INDOOR DINING	50% capacity, early closures, one household per table
 VENUES OF ASSEMBLY	25% capacity, maximum of 125 people
 GYMS & SPORT FACILITIES	1 person per 150 sq. ft., early closures
 INDOOR RECREATION	1 person per 150 sq. ft., early closures

COVID-19 Testing

We are happy to have a pop-up rapid **asymptomatic** testing site at the former Joseph A. Bank storefront in the Barrington Shopping Center. Appointments are not necessary.

- Friday, January 15 and Saturday January 16, 9am-5pm
- Tuesday through Saturday, January 19-23, 9am to 5pm.

We owe a special thank you to Joe Paolino and Paolino Properties, the RI Department of Health and the RI National Guard for supporting this community effort.








In addition, rapid and PCR testing is available at various locations throughout the state. A full list of locations is located [here](#). To make an appointment click [here](#).

COVID-19 Vaccine

Rhode Island is currently in Phase 1 of vaccine distribution, which focuses on healthcare workers and those over 75 years of age. Vaccinations have already begun for the first three sub-groups included in Phase 1 (see image below). Please note that there is no action that outpatient providers, adults over 75 years of age, or others for whom vaccination has not yet begun need to take at this time to get a vaccine.

WHO can get vaccinated in PHASE 1 of Rhode Island's COVID-19 Vaccination Program?

Phase 1 Timeline		
E Q U I T Y		Hospital Staff, EMS, Home Health and Hospice Workers, Nursing Home Staff and Residents Started December 14 Started vaccinating first dose and second dose
		COVID Vaccinators, Community Health Center Staff, COVID Specimen Collectors, Urgent Care Clinic Staff, Respiratory Clinic Staff (including clinical settings swabbing for COVID-19), Pharmacists, Corrections Medical Staff and Mental Health Workers, High-Risk Incarcerated Persons (65 and older, immunocompromised, or other high-risk factors), Other Long-Term Care Facility Staff and Residents (e.g., group homes for individuals primarily 65 and older, assisted living, elderly housing with residential services) Started January Started vaccinating first dose
		Firefighters, Law Enforcement, Hard-Hit Communities, COVID Testing Lab Staff, Other Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Workers, School Nurse Teachers, Harm Reduction Staff, Patient-Facing Clinical Students, Community and Family Caregivers, Corrections Officers/Staff Started January Started vaccinating first dose
		Dentists, Primary Care and Other Outpatient Providers, Dialysis Centers Staff, Blood, Organ, and Tissue Donation Staff, Morticians, Funeral Home Workers, Other Death Care Professionals Projected to Start Week of Jan. 25 Not yet started
		Adults over 75 years of age Projected to Start Feb/March Not yet started

There may be overlap among the groups listed above. It may take several months for everyone in Phase 1 to be vaccinated. Exact timing depends on demand, doses made available to Rhode Island, and other factors. Information on who can get vaccinated in future phases will be shared as soon as possible.

[Rhode Island's Vaccine Subcommittee](#) is currently formulating recommendations for the state for Phase 2. They recently met to consider age, high-risk conditions, occupation and geography when more clearly defining the sub-groups in the next phase. We will update you once these decisions have been made.

Additional details:

- As of today, Rhode Island administered 39,502 first doses and 8,616 second doses.
- RI is *not* holding back first doses in Rhode Island to prepare for second doses.
- The state is receiving approximately 14,000 doses each week (enough for just over 1% of RI population).
- Rhode Island ranks among the top states nationally in terms of first doses administered per 100,000 people.

Local Reminders

Municipal Buildings are closed to visitors; however, operations will remain the same and assistance is available. Appointments can be made for transactions by calling 401-247-1900, and tax payments can be made [online](#) or through the dropbox at Town Hall.

Vehicle tax bills will be mailed via USPS on Friday, January 15, 2021. For payments options, visit: <https://www.barrington.ri.gov/finance-taxcollections>.

Vehicle Tax Payment Due Dates:

- March 15, 2021 no interest will accrue until March 30, 2021
- March 30, 2021 interest will accrue after March 30, 2021
- June 15, 2021 no interest will accrue until June 30, 2021
- June 30, 2021 interest will accrue after June 30, 2021

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation. **Let's come together to overcome this virus!**

Sincerely,

Jim . . .

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- **RIDOH information line for COVID-19** please call 401-222-8022 or email RIDOH.COVID19Questions@health.ri.gov and visit the [R.I. Dept. of Health website](#).
 - The United Way is available 24-7 to answer questions and connect residents with resources through their 211 hotline.
 - **Flu Vaccines:** Rhode Islanders are encouraged to get their flu vaccine this year. Find a flu vaccination clinic in your community at <https://health.ri.gov/flu/>
 - **K-12 Testing** - Rhode Island's K-12 testing services are available to any student, teacher, or staff member at any public or private K-12 school throughout the state who needs to be tested for COVID-19. Any K-12 students or staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been identified as a close contact of a positive case should call the K-12 test scheduling service at 844-857-1814. Visit the [K-12 COVID-19 Test Scheduling Web page](#).
 - **Multilanguage Information on COVID-19 testing options** [here](#) (Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese (Simplified), French, Haitian Creole, Hmong, Khmer (Cambodian), Kinyarwanda, Laotian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swahili)
 - **Resources for the deaf and hard-of-hearing** available [here](#) and [here](#).

Community Resources

- **PAUSE Rhode Island** is a program that provides free community outreach and support services for Rhode Islanders dealing with stress and anxiety due to COVID-19.
 - 24/7 hotline for anyone 18 or over: 401-414-5465
 - 24/7 hotline for anyone under 18: 855-543-5465
- **Rhode Island continues to face a drug overdose epidemic:**
 - **BH Link Hotline and Walk-In Center | 975 Waterman Ave., East Providence:** Access behavioral health services, long-term care, and recovery support at this 24/7 [walk-in and drop-off facility](#), or call the BH Link hotline, **401-414-LINK (5465)**, to learn more about local treatment and recovery support services.
 - [COVID-19 Harm Reduction Resources](#) (Prevent Overdose RI)
 - **Safe Stations** is a drop-in service where people can visit [Newport](#), [Providence](#), or [Woonsocket](#) fire station 24 hours a day, seven days a week to access treatment and recovery support services.
- **Parents seeking information about their children's urgent behavioral health issues** can call Kids' Link, a service administered by Bradley Hospital/Lifespan at 1-855-543-5465.
 - Bradley Hospital has a variety of [COVID-19 Resources for Parents and Caregivers](#) available.
 - The American Psychological Association has a variety of [resources for quarantined parents](#).
- **Support Services for Workers Who Need to Stay Home**
 - Rhode Islanders should continue to stay home if you are sick. If you need to stay home because of COVID-19, there are resources for you.
 - [Relief for Workers Flyer](#)
- **RI Delivers:** Through the Office of Healthy Aging, RI Delivers connects those in quarantine or isolation with access to food and medication delivery services. To contact call 2-1-1 or the Point at 401-462-4444. Visit www.RIDelivers.com
- **RI Thrives** is available for deliveries of groceries, medication, and health, beauty & medical supplies. For more information go to: www.rithrives.com.
- The **WeR1 Fund** is providing **\$400 gift cards for Rhode Islanders** who are not eligible for most federal relief programs due to their immigration status. The funds allows for purchase of groceries, gas, and other basic necessities. Those in need of assistance should visit [Dorcas International](#) to apply. Applications can also be found in [Spanish](#), [Portuguese](#), and [Haitian Creole](#).

- **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)** participants are now able to select and pay for their groceries online using their EBT card at Amazon and participating Walmart stores. For more details, visit dhs.ri.gov.
- **American Red Cross:** Established the Virtual Family Assistance Center to support those that lost loved ones. Visit their [website](#) or call (833) 492-0094.
- **Safe Harbor Housing Program:** Tenants who are behind in their rent because of COVID-19 and in danger of eviction, or who have already received an eviction notice, can **call 211** to be connected to the program.
- **Renters and Homeowners:** For constituents seeking housing-related information and resources, visit: <https://www.rihousing.com/covid-19/>
- **Housing Help RI:** Emergency housing assistance to very low-income renters who have been severely affected by the COVID-19 emergency and are at immediate risk of homelessness: <https://www.housinghelpri.com/>
- **Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence** and member agencies are open, as are domestic violence shelters. Those seeking help can call 1-800-494-8100.
- **Business Support**
 - **Business Assistance:** For business economic support, constituents should visit www.commerceri.com, call Commerce RI at 401-521-4357 (HELP), or email them at info@commerceri.com.
 - **Enhanced Capital Rhode Island Small Business Loan Program:** Micro loans of \$10,000 - \$50,000 per company and larger term loans of up to \$1 million per company. Applications now available [here](#). Distribution expected in January.