



BARRINGTON TOWN MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear Barrington Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners,

I hope you are doing well and staying safe.

We all owe a big thank you to the **Barrington Public Works Department**. Over the past several months DPW has done an extraordinary job in cleaning up after three storms. Many hours of overtime and late nights have been spent clearing roads, keeping sewerage pump stations open, clearing bus stops and sidewalks for our students, and picking up and chipping debris from our properties. To Alan Corvi, John Renquinha and the entire DPW team; we say **THANK YOU FOR A JOB WELL DONE!!!**

COVID-19 - Rhode Island is seeing another uptick in COVID-19 cases over the past week. I strongly urge all residents to refrain from hosting or attending gatherings with over 15 people; remain 6 ft apart when in public; and always carry a face covering with you for times when social distancing cannot be maintained, or in indoor settings. Even if you are visiting with close family or friends, the Department of Health is suggesting distance be kept and masks be worn. Please do not let your guard down. For more guidance on Phase III, visit:

<https://reopeningri.com/>

The state hopes to conduct more testing of asymptomatic people for early detection. Sign up at portal.ri.gov.

Halloween – Rhode Island's uptick in cases can be tied to an increase in small gatherings. With Halloween two weeks away, we understand that children need an outlet for fun activities and a sense of normalcy; however, it must be done in a safe and responsible way.

- Residents should **not** be hosting or attending Halloween parties.
- Children and families trick-or-treating should wear face masks and physically distance.
- If you are handing out candy at your home, please do not do so from a communal bowl. Consider leaving individually wrapped bags outside.

The Barrington Recreation Department is hosting several virtual Halloween events for residents [here](#). For additional creative Halloween activities and guidance, visit:

<https://health.ri.gov/publications/guidelines/covid-tips-for-a-safer-halloween.pdf>

Voting - A reminder to voters that early voting is available until Monday, November 2nd, 4:00 p.m. Voters wishing to cast their ballot early can do so at Town Hall on Mondays 8:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; and Fridays 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon. For more voting information visit our [website](#) or the [R.I. Secretary of State](#).

Employers –The Governor has [ordered](#) on the closure of breakrooms for 90 days. Employers are still being encouraged to let people work from home to the greatest extent possible. Please also encourage your employees to sign up for asymptomatic testing at portal.ri.gov

The State [announced](#) that they are increasing the size of potential Restore RI grant awards up to \$30,000 – doubling the original grant sizes. Eligibility for the program is also being increased to allow non-profit organizations and private child care facilities. An information session is being held on Tuesday, October 20 at 10:30 AM; [Join here](#).

Support Local Businesses - Please consider supporting our local businesses this weekend. Rather than ordering online, shop local; many of our small businesses have contactless pick up options or delivery. There are also many options in our community for outdoor dining and takeout. Take it Outside!

Take-It Outside - If you are a local business interested in equipment to keep your business operating, such as heat lamps, lighting, sanitization outdoor materials, please contact Barrington's Economic Development Director, Ms. Debra Page-Trim at DPageTrim@barrington.ri.gov. Equipment is on order and an application is being developed.

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Jim . . .

General Information:

- **Re-Opening Rhode Island's Economy:** <https://www.reopeningri.com/>
- **Re-Opening Rhode Island's Schools:** <https://www.back2schoolri.com/>
- **COVID Guidance in Multiple Languages:** <https://health.ri.gov/covid/multiplelanguages/>
- **CRUSH COVID RI Mobile App:** [Download Now](#)
- **COVID-19 Governor's Daily Update:** Sign-up [here](#).
- **RI Department of Health COVID-19 Data:** [Visit RIDOH](#).
- Guidance around [Halloween](#) and [Fall](#) events.
- School Support Helpline for RI educators, students, & families: <http://tinyurl.com/rihelpline> or (401) 232-4725

- **Testing:**
 - Rhode Islanders who have any COVID-19 [symptoms](#). Learn how to get tested [here](#).
 - Pre-K -Grade 12 student and staff testing program: [Click here for information](#).
 - Rhode Islanders who do not have symptoms, but:
 - Are high-contact workers
 - Recently attended a large gathering such as a protest or demonstration
 - Traveled to a [place where cases are spiking](#).
 - You will be able to sign up for an asymptomatic test (if you don't have symptoms) by going to portal.ri.gov.

- **Travel:**
 - **If you are planning to travel to a state that requires a COVID-19 test** in order to avoid extended quarantine, you can schedule a test through portal.ri.gov. Individuals will receive their results within 24-48 hours.
 - **Rhode Islanders who travel** to or from the states listed [here](#) must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Rhode Island and schedule an asymptomatic test.
 - **Travelers coming to Rhode Island** from one of [these states](#) with a COVID-19 positivity rate of higher than 5%, must quarantine for 14 days and self-monitor for symptoms.
 - As an exception, you may provide proof of a negative test for COVID-19 that was taken within 72 hours prior to arrival in Rhode Island.
 - For more information, please visit: <https://health.ri.gov/covid/travel/>

- **Behavioral Health Resources**
 - Adults seeking mental or behavioral health support should call BH Link at 414-LINK (5465). For services for children, call 1-855-543-5465.
 - People with moderate to severe opioid use disorder (OUD) can access telehealth service for initiation of buprenorphine treatment at 401-606-5456.

- **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.
 - **COVID-19 Control Plan:** Must be completed and kept on-hand. Template available [here](#).
 - **Department of Business Regulations COVID-19 guidance** documents and business assistance can be found on <https://dbr.ri.gov/>.
 - **Financial Support:** For questions or assistance for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans dispersed by the Small Business Administration, please email ppp@commerceri.com.

- **Child and Family Assistance**
 - **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.

- **Employment Support**
 - **RI Navigator** provides resources for jobseekers to learn new skills, explore career options, and prepare for a job. The platform also allows jobseekers to find and connect to supportive services around barriers to employment. Additionally, jobseekers have the option of talking directly with a career guide through the [RI Reconnect \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://ri.reconnect.net) to get one-on-one counseling and support on educational and vocational options.
 - **Unemployment Insurance:** Constituents seeking assistance with filing a COVID-19 unemployment claim should first visit dlt.ri.gov for information, applications, and

factsheets. Contact the Department of Labor and Training at 401-234-4280 or dlt.covid19@dlt.ri.gov.

- **Employment:** Jobseekers should visit <http://www.EmployRI.org> to find jobs as well as other important resources including information on unemployment insurance, résumé tips, and other COVID-19 updates.

- **Food and Medication Delivery Services**

- **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.

- **Housing Assistance and Information**

- **Safe Harbor Housing Program:** an eviction diversion effort to serve as an alternative to the traditional eviction process and provide landlords and tenants an opportunity to work towards a solution outside of the court system. 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:** The statewide homelessness prevention initiative provides 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. Visit: <https://www.housinghelpri.com/>

Violence Prevention Support

- **Safe at Home:** The Rhode Island State Police launched [Safe at Home](#) to raise awareness of the threat of increased violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Safe at Home is focused on connecting with those who may be facing violence at home and providing all Rhode Islanders with resources to identify and help those at-risk.
- **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.

Additional Resources and Support

- **RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing** - The Commission now has a website dedicated to COVID-19, with specific information that is critically important to members of the community with hearing loss. The site has videos presented in American Sign Language <http://www.cdhh.ri.gov/covid-19/>

Questions About COVID-19:

Please visit the [R.I. Dept. of Health website](#) for factual up-to-date information or call 401-222-8022. In addition, the United Way is available 24-7 to answer questions and connect residents with resources through their 211 hotline.