

Town of Jamestown

Town Administrator



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Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-1199
401-423-9805
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Jamie A. Hainsworth
Town Administrator

October 9, 2020

Dear Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners:

I hope you are doing well and staying safe.

Rhode Island has seen an uptick in COVID-19 cases over the past week. As we enter a long weekend, I 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. Now is not the time to let our guards down.

A reminder to voters' applications for mail ballots are due Tuesday, October 13th, in person voting opens on Wednesday October 14, 2020 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. located at the Town Hall, in the Council Chambers at 93 Narragansett Avenue. If you have a mail ballot you can deposit your ballot in a lock box located outside at the Town Hall, on the West Street side of the building.

As a reminder:

- All gatherings must be limited to 15 people or less;
 - Violations are punishable by a fine of up to \$500 per person.
- Limit your circle of contacts to 15 people or less;
- Masks and face coverings should be worn when distancing is not possible;
- Common surfaces should be cleaned frequently; and
- Hands should be washed or sanitized often.
- For more guidance on Phase III, visit: <https://reopeningri.com/>
- Local businesses should familiarize themselves with the Phase III [guidelines](#). The R.I. Department of Health will continue their enforcement of restaurants/bars/businesses. Beginning today Friday, August 7, bars are required to close at 11pm.

Also, emergency financial grants for Rhode Island's small businesses are now open. Learn more about the process at <https://commerceri.com/about-us/restore-ri/>.

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.

All Town of Jamestown government buildings are open with necessary safety precautions and some limited access. However, all services remain available by telephone, appointment, drop box, window service, email and other electronic means.

Always remember 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.

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.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and assistance in keeping Jamestown a healthy community. If you have any questions or concerns, please call my office at 401-423-9805 or contact me by email at jhainsworth@jamestownri.net.

Sincerely,

Jamie A. Hainsworth, Town Administrator

Please take some time to read the below information relative to the spread of COVID-19 current guidelines, restrictions and pertinent Town Government updates. Remember this virus can only be managed with your help.

Jamestown Food Pantries: Community food pantries should you need assistance. Jamestown Community Food Pantry 401-560-4080, St Mark Food Pantry 401-423-1421 or the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center 401-846-4828.

A reminder to local businesses to apply for Commerce RI's [Restore Rhode Island grant program](#). The grant program is designed to provide funds to small businesses severely impacted by COVID-19. Businesses, including sole proprietors, who have at least one W-2 employee in addition to the owner are eligible to apply. Please review the following guidance documents to learn more about eligibility and requirements:

- [Grant Calculator](#) (Excel file) or [web form](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Get Ready to Apply Checklist](#)
- [Application and Next Steps](#)

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:** All Rhode Islanders are encouraged to use [CRUSH COVID RI](#). The app provides Rhode Islanders easy access to all the resources required during the public health crisis, including a location diary that helps users identify the people and places they are in contact with and a symptom checking survey.
- **COVID-19 Governor's Daily Update:** Sign-up [here](#).
- **RI Department of Health COVID-19 Data:** [Visit RIDOH](#).
- **Testing:**

- Rhode Islanders who have any COVID-19 [symptoms](#). Learn how to get tested [here](#).
 - 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**
 - **Emergency Support:** The State is offering \$100 million in emergency financial support for Rhode Island's small businesses that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The grants will support small businesses for reopening, adaptation, technical support services, and fixed costs incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more and apply [here](#).
 - **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/>.
 - **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.
 - **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.
 - **PPE for Small Businesses:** Small businesses with fewer than 50 employees can access a month's worth of face masks and disinfectant solution from local chambers of commerce and business associations free of charge. Visit [Commerce's website](#).
- **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**
 - **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 Monday-Friday 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.