



Town of Jamestown
Town Administrator
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Jamie A. Hainsworth
Town Administrator

June 8, 2020

Dear Jamestown Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners:

Rhode Island has continued to make progress in flattening the COVID-19 curve. However, we unfortunately continue to lose loved-ones to this virus. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

Phase 2 of the re-opening of the economy has allowed many of our small businesses to re-open. We appreciate the efforts of local businesses to understand and implement the new regulations to keep us all safe. We also appreciate residents and visitors following state guidelines and the new processes established at businesses, parks, beaches and other locations. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

While our economy is slowly re-opening, it is still critically important that we continue keep our groups small, wear face coverings, avoid large crowds, and constantly wash our hands. Please familiarize yourself with the re-opening guidelines: <https://www.reopeningri.com/>.

I ask 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.

Our country is also battling another enemy; racism and injustice. These recent events have caused many of us to experience feelings of sadness, confusion, helplessness, and frustration. Our country is facing another defining moment. We must rise to the occasion to repair and build a society that guarantees freedom, justice and opportunity for *all* Americans, not just a select few. George Floyd's death cannot be in vain. We must and will do better.

In partnership with community leaders and residents, we will engage in conversations around equity and look deeply at our policies and procedures to ensure that they are fair, just, and are applied equally.

Shop, Eat Local

Small businesses are vital in our community. We encourage those that can to shop local. Stop by a local store rather than ordering online; make a reservation to dine outside at one of our local restaurants, or order takeout to enjoy at home. The Jamestown Town Council has voted to allow several restaurants the use of the municipal parking lot on Narragansett Avenue to operate outside dining services. Local businesses have worked hard to implement statewide re-opening guidelines. Here at the Town hall, we are working hard as well to make sure that we are providing support for our local businesses. If you are a local business that has questions or needs assistance, please contact me at jhainsworth@jamestownri.net or call me at 401-423-9805.

Statewide Guidance:

As a reminder, **all residents and visitors** must adhere to the following:

- Anyone who is sick should stay home and self-isolate
- When people are in public, they should wear a cloth face covering.
 - A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It could be sewn by hand or improvised from household items such as scarves, T-shirts, or bandanas.
- Groups of no more than 15 people.
 - Always avoid close personal contact with other people in public.
- 14-day quarantine for international travel, or those traveling from states with stay-at-home or shelter-in-place orders
- Download the [Crush COVID-19 app](#), or keep a personal 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.

Local Updates:

The Town of Jamestown in accordance with state guidelines has formed a plan for operations of summer camps. Please contact the Recreation Department at 401-423-7260 or email to recreationinfo@jamestownri.net.

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

The Town Council has presented its budget, now awaiting the Financial Town Meeting (FTM) which has been rescheduled to June 22, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. On June 1st the Governor relaxed some of the COVID-19 rules on social gatherings. As a result, we are able to have our FTM with a slightly different look than in previous years. This year the meeting will be in a 'Drive In' style to be held on the field next to the Lawn Avenue School. We are encouraging you to arrive and participate from your vehicle, this will ensure social distancing while using your vehicle as a partition. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m., all Jamestown registered voters once checked in will receive instructions on meeting participation/voting in a packet and be assisted/directed on parking by staff. If you don't arrive by vehicle there will be a designated pedestrian area. This has been a very difficult budget year; however, we will be creative in finding ways to continue to provide the best services to our residents. We also continue to closely track the state budget process and federal stimulus funding, which will affect us locally.

Quarterly property tax payments are due by June 12, 2020.

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.

Resident Recreation Passes: [are now available for sale online here.](#) You can also choose to download and mail your forms in [by clicking here.](#)

Important Information:

If you are feeling sick and exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, visit the Department of Health's [self checker](#) and schedule a test:

- Call your healthcare provider (if you have one) to get an order for a COVID-19 test at one of the drive-up testing sites.

Or

- Call a Respiratory Clinic View. View all locations [here](#).

Or

- Go to the CVS [website](#) to be pre-screened for testing and to get an appointment (adult 18+ only).

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.

General Information:

- **Re-Opening Rhode Island's Economy:** For information on the current phase of re-opening, guidance and support, visit: <https://www.reopeningri.com/>
- **COVID Guidance in Multiple Languages:** For guidance documents and support in multiple languages, please visit <https://health.ri.gov/covid/multiplelanguages/>
- **CRUSH COVID RI Mobile App:** All Rhode Islanders are encouraged to use [CRUSH COVID RI](#), a pandemic response mobile app that's available on smartphones. 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. Download the CRUSH COVID RI app now in the Apple App Store and Google Play to step up and help RI #CrushCovidRI.
- **COVID-19 Governor's Daily Update:** Sign-up [here](#).
- **RI Department of Health COVID-19 Data:** [Visit RIDOH](#).
- **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**
 - **Reopening the Economy:** For constituents seeking assistance with the reopening of the economy, guidance documents for childcare, faith-based organization, retail, restaurants, and transit can be found on <https://www.reopeningri.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/>. COVID-19 questions or complaints can be asked at <https://dbr.ri.gov/critical/>.
 - **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.
 - **Tech Help:** If a business needs help getting online, creating a website, moving to online marketing or ordering, or accessing laptops., they can access free tech help through RI Commerce. Visit <https://commerceri.com/covid-19-business-resources/>
 - **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**
 - **American Red Cross:** Established the Virtual Family Assistance Center to support those that lost loved ones. Visit their [website](#) or call (833) 492-0094.
 - **Family Care Community Partnerships (FCCPs):** The RI Department of Children, Youth and Families' recognizes that all families struggle and need supports they can turn to from time to time, including basic needs, bridging family rifts, and increasing the overall well-being of families. FCCP agencies bring community-based services to children and families to build a stronger, brighter futures. For more information, or to contact your local FCCP, please visit <http://www.dcyf.ri.gov/fccps>
- **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**
 - **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/>
 - 20 local financial institutions have agreed to the following:
 - 90-day grace period on mortgage payments. 60-day moratorium on foreclosures and evictions.
 - List of financial institutions available at <https://dbr.ri.gov/>.

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

- For more resources and support, please visit <https://health.ri.gov/publications/factsheets/Do-You-Need-Support-for-COVID-19.pdf>.
 - **2020 Census:** Please take a few minutes to complete the 2020 Census at <https://2020census.gov/>.
 - **Distance learning support** for parents through the Highlander Institute: <https://highlanderinstitute.org/distance-learning-helpline/>.
 - **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/>
- **Student Loans support:**
 - Federal student loans payments are suspended: <https://studentaid.gov/>
 - [Student Loan Rights](#)
 - [Information on RI student loans](#)
 - **Rooms** for first responders and healthcare workers: available at reduced costs for quarantined/ isolation at <https://www.RIHavens.com>.

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 hotlines.

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

Sincerely,

Jamie A. Hainsworth, Town Administrator