

Town of Jamestown

Town Administrator



93 Narragansett Avenue

Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-1199

401-423-9805

Email: jhainsworth@jamestownri.net

Jamie A. Hainsworth
Town Administrator

November 23, 2020

Dear Residents, Businesses, and Community Partners:

I hope you and your family are doing well and staying safe.

Rhode Island's healthcare system is experiencing a record number of hospitalizations due to the rising cases of COVID-19. This is putting extreme stress on the healthcare system and its workers.

We all must make immediate changes to our daily activities and routines. Residents should limit the amount of people they are in contact with and the number of places they are going on a daily basis. Please plan for small Thanksgiving gatherings limited to your household.

With the rise in cases, the State of Rhode Island announced a two-week "pause" with new closures and restrictions – some are immediate and others will begin November 30th.

- **Effective immediately:**
 - Social gatherings are limited to those within your household.
 - Stay-at-home advisory continues:
 - 10 p.m. – 5 a.m. Sunday - Thursday
 - 10:30 p.m. - 5 a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

The following changes are in place from November 30 – December 13:

OPEN	LIMITED	CLOSED
 IN-PERSON PreK-8 SCHOOL	 IN-PERSON HIGH SCHOOL	 IN-PERSON COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES
 CHILD CARE	 SOCIAL GATHERINGS One household	 OFFICES (WHEN POSSIBLE)
 MANUFACTURING & CONSTRUCTION	 INDOOR DINING 33% capacity, early closures, one household per table	 BAR AREAS
 PERSONAL SERVICES	 RETAIL 1 person/100 sq. ft. (big box: 1 person/150 sq. ft.)	 RECREATIONAL VENUES
 HEALTH CARE	 HOUSES OF WORSHIP 25% capacity (max of 125)	 INDOOR SPORT FACILITIES, GYMS & GROUP FITNESS, ORGANIZED SPORTS (excludes NCAA & professional sports)

Over the next three weeks, please keep health care workers and small businesses in mind. If individuals refuse to follow the guidelines, they are putting health care workers lives and the livelihoods of small businesses at risk. **Let's come together to overcome this virus!**

Supporting Local Businesses

These new restrictions present additional barriers for small businesses, during a time when they are already struggling. I strongly urge residents to **Shop Local** this year. Many are offering online ordering or curbside pick-up.

Businesses:

- The online application form, webpage, and FAQs are now available for the relief program for restaurants and bars [here](#).
- Box stores will be required to have a plan in place to handle the expected increase in holiday and Black Friday customers.
- For more assistance programs, please visit the Business section below.

All Town of Jamestown government buildings are open with necessary safety precautions and some limited access. I ask whenever possible please avoid in person meetings. When conducting your business in our buildings use alternative methods such as: telephone, appointment, drop box, window service, email and other electronic means.

To Track Covid-19 cases by municipalities go to:

<https://ridoh-covid-19-response-geography-site-rihealth.hub.arcgis.com>

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.

We ask all residents to refrain from hosting or attending gatherings with people not living in your household; 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.

Reminders:

- Limit your circle of contacts to members of your household;
- 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.

Please do not let your guard down. As a reminder, free asymptomatic COVID-19 testing is available at <portal.ri.gov>.

Businesses:

- **Business Assistance:** The [Restore RI](#) program has been expanded. Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).
- **Remote Work Technology Grants** available [here](#).
- **Relief program for restaurants and bars** that must close earlier than usual due to COVID-19. The Division of Taxation will be posting more information [here](#).
- 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/>.

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

General Information:

- [Re-Opening Rhode Island's Economy](#)
- [Re-Opening Rhode Island's Schools](#)
- [COVID Guidance in Multiple Languages](#)
- [CRUSH COVID RI Mobile App](#)
- [Sign up for the Governor's Daily COVID-19 Update](#)
- [RI Department of Health COVID-19 Data](#)
- [School Support Helpline for RI educators, students, & families](#) or (401) 232-4725

- **Testing:** [visit](#)

- **Travel:**

- Please limit your travel
 - [Testing for those planning to travel](#)
 - **Testing Rhode Islanders who travel** to or from the states listed [here](#) must quarantine for 14 days upon arrival in Rhode Island or schedule an asymptomatic test.
- **[Behavioral Health Resources](#)**
 - Adults in need of 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.
 - **Breakrooms:** 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.
 - **[Businesses Take-It-Outside](#)**
 - **Business Assistance:** The [Restore RI](#) program has been expanded. Learn more [here](#) and [here](#).
 - **Remote Work Technology Grants** available [here](#).
 - **Relief program for restaurants and bars** that must close earlier than usual due to COVID-19 [visit](#).
 - Please encourage your employees to sign up for asymptomatic testing at portal.ri.gov
- **[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. [RI Reconnect \[r20.rs6.net\]](http://RIReconnect[r20.rs6.net]).
 - **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.
 - **Unemployment Insurance:** 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.
- **[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.