

Town of North Haven
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May 5, 2020

Re: Summer 2020

Dear North Haven Community Members,

Summer is a time when everything comes alive — not just in our natural surroundings, but in our tight-knit community as well. All of us, no matter where you've spent the winter, look forward to getting together and enjoying each other's company. We look forward to the vibrancy, renewed friendships, and events - large and small - that make our island unique.

What will this summer be like? This is the question on nearly everybody's minds. With the virus affecting people around the world, we are hopeful North Haven can find the right balance between summer fun and protecting people's health, a balance between respect for each other as individuals and acting together for the sake of our community.

We recently held a large conference call with people representing businesses and organizations, from the boatyards and the Casino to Turner Farm and Waterman's. The purpose of the call was to discuss their plans for this summer. I will get to the outcome of that call in a moment, but first let me set out Maine's plan.

Governor Mills recently published a four-phase plan¹ for reopening Maine's businesses and activities. In announcing her plan, she stressed that it is flexible and she will adjust it as circumstances warrant. Here are some of the highlights:

- A 14-day quarantine period remains in effect for anyone coming in from out of state
- Beginning in June —
 - Gatherings may increase from less than 10 people to less than 50, with appropriate safeguards for participants and employees
 - Restaurants may resume in-store dining, if physical distancing and other safeguards are feasible and practiced
- Beginning in July —
 - Hotels and bars may reopen with appropriate safeguards
 - Outdoor recreation, including charter boats and boat excursions may resume operation
- No large community events this summer; this includes Rockland's Lobster Festival
- Phase 4 will start whenever activities can resume at near normal levels

¹ <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-presents-safe-gradual-plan-restart-maines-economy-2020-04-28>.

As to the island, here is what we discussed during our business and organization conference call:

- The North Haven Conservation Partners plan to hold one outdoor walk per month
- The North Haven Art Association Show will be located at The North Haven Gallery and may include an online auction
- Unfortunately, we will not hold the Fourth of July Picnic, Fun Run, or Games and we will not hold Community Days
- Waterman's will not hold large capacity events in the theater, but may hold smaller events with appropriate precautions
- The Casino is considering the possibility of holding boat races and may allow people to play tennis; it has not yet been determined if the Casino can practically and safely offer sailing or tennis lessons; afternoon teas will likely be canceled
- North Haven Historical Society will not hold summer events or open the museum. The Archives will be open by appointment only. Please email the Historical Society at nhhist@myfairpoint.net or call 867-4752. Local history and photographs are available for viewing online at www.northhavenmainehistoricalociety.org and on Facebook @northhavenhistory.
- Hopkins Wharf Gallery and Gift Shop will remain open with appropriate safeguards; additionally, this summer will debut a new business — The Market at Hopkins Wharf
- Calderwood Hall is unlikely to offer in-store dining or gatherings, but will offer curbside pickup and may consider deliveries
- The North Haven Brewery will brew and deliver beer, but its tasting room will not be open
- Nebo will offer food and lodging consistent with the Governor's plan and with appropriate safeguards and physical distancing in effect
- Turner Farm - Offering takeout meals Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings starting June 15th. Options to eat on-site at picnic tables will be available. Wine and local beer will also be for sale with takeout meals. The Farm Stand will be open for online ordering via the farm's website and will feature fresh veggies, meat, baked goods and deli items. All takeout meals and Farm Stand orders can be picked up at the barn or at the Turner Farm dock. Farm Stand will also be open limited hours for in-person shopping starting in July. A different island summer!
- North Haven Grocery will provide curbside pickup, but may close to in-store shopping; currently 5 customers are allowed in the store at a time and must wear some form of mask or cloth face covering
- The Golf Course will open, but will carefully manage tee-times to distance golfers from one another; the organization may not offer weekly membership given quarantine requirements
- Southern Harbor House remains closed to visitors in an effort to protect its residents and staff
- The Town Office continues to perform its functions, but we do business via email, telephone, and an outside drop box
- The Clinic is currently open to regular visits and lab sample draws; this may change as circumstances warrant

- The boatyards will launch and service boats with appropriate protections in place for their staffs and customers; please let them know what your plans are so they can schedule accordingly

In a further effort to help manage expectations and strike the right balance, I am attaching “Guiding Principles for a Safe North Haven Summer 2020.” Please read through them and take them to heart.

With these changes, this summer will be different. But I am confident we will all get through this together. North Haven is a strong community.

Act responsibly, be thoughtful, and please take care of each other.

//s//
Rick Lattimer
Town Administrator

P.S. While I will take the heat for any aspects of this letter or the Guiding Principles that don’t seem right, you should be proud of your friends, neighbors, and community members — near and far — who spent a lot of time thinking about how to transition to a new, safe, and enjoyable summer.

Attachment: Guiding Principles