



COVID-19

April 15th Report to the Chebeague Community



Wood sculpture by Captain Jeremy Ames

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Be Safe * Stay Home * Be Positive

We will come through this together.

The Town of Chebeague Island is following the **CDC guidelines** (www.cdc.gov) and Maine Governor Janet Mills' executive orders to stop the spread of the coronavirus. We ask everyone to stay healthy and at home during the coronavirus/Covid-19 emergency except for essential services (food, medicine and jobs listed as critical under the Governor's order, www.maine.gov/governor/mills/covid-19). If you're on the island, stay on the island as much as you are able and be safe. This newsletter is available to all Chebeague residents. It is a summary of the information found on the community page, Bev's chebeague.org/covidupdate.pdf. **This website is the most complete source of information** and is being updated frequently. Please contact the Town office at 846-3148 if you would like to receive hard copies of the COVID-19 UPDATE.

WHAT IF YOU FEEL SICK?

IF YOU THINK YOU MAY BE SICK WITH COVID-19...please call your primary care provider if you have any combination of the Covid-19 symptoms. The virus is clinically defined as having any **combination of fever, dry cough, and shortness of breath**. Your provider probably will recommend that you stay home, self-monitor and self-isolate if your symptoms do not require emergency care. This puts the fewest people at risk of contracting the illness. If you do not have a provider, call 211 and they will place you in contact with a healthcare professional to assist you. The CDC (www.cdc.gov) has extensive resources for any coronavirus questions and is the trusted source of information. **If you have an emergency, as always - DIAL 911.**

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

(This update draws on information from the Town of Chebeague and the island's community organizations. It is based on a larger report posted on www.townofchebeagueisland.org Covid-19 Tab, Bev's website www.chebeague.org COVID UPDATE, the new ChebWeb managed by Chip Emery www.chebweb.com, and Chuck's FaceBook [Chebeague Swap and Sell](#).)

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, APRIL 3, 2020

Dear Chebeague Friends and Neighbors,

All of us, wherever we may be, are trying to stay at home and stay healthy.

Our Selectmen issued a [resolution](#) on March 28th asking you to please stay where you are and not travel to Chebeague. We are doing our best to keep everyone safe.

The Governor of Maine, Janet Mills, gave an executive order on March 31st which asked everyone in Maine to "Stay Healthy at Home". Mainers are only permitted to leave their homes for essential services. On April 3, Governor Mills issued quarantining orders. If you must come to Chebeague from some other location, bring enough food, prescriptions and supplies for at least 14 days. According to the order, you must stay at home for a minimum of 14 days.

All of us on Chebeague, are eager for the day when we will be at the Stone Wharf or at Chandlers to welcome you back to the island. Until then, stay well wherever you may be, and stay in touch. You can find updates on the Town website under the [Covid-19 Tab](#) and on the Chebeague.org/covidupdate.pdf. We'll come through this together.

Marjorie Stratton, Town Administrator

DECLARATION OF TOWN EMERGENCY

Currently, the Town of Chebeague Island is under a [Declaration of Emergency](#) as voted by the Selectmen on April 8th. The emergency declaration has three key

benefits: to allow the Town Administrator to expedite decisions related to the coronavirus outbreak, extends protections with regards to liability to volunteers and services provided during the Covid-19 crisis; and enables the Island to access special funding and services as needed. It will be announced by the Town Administrator when it is over. Covid-19 has reached the level of community spread in Cumberland County. Chebeague Island is practicing every safety measure at our disposal to flatten the curve and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

During the crisis, all Town meetings are now being conducted remotely ([via ZOOM](#)) as a practice of safe social distancing. Meetings are listed on the Town website and are open to the public. Contact the Town Office at 846-3148 for specific directions and numbers to dial-in. You may listen on a regular phone (landline) or access the video conferencing via the Internet. All information is available on the Town website too. www.townofchebeagueisland.org

COVID-19 TESTING & RESCUE FROM CHEBEAGUE

WHAT IF YOU NEED A TEST?

Your provider will determine whether you need a coronavirus test, and make an appointment for you to be tested at a site on the Mainland.

For transportation to your test, the CTC has set up special bargaining procedures at no cost for suspected COVID-19 patients requiring non-emergency transportation to the mainland. Contact the CTC office at 846-3700 to schedule your trip.

In addition, there are two other transportation options for COVID-19 non-emergency testing: [The Casco Bay Lines](#) to Portland, and Fogg Boat Works water taxi. See information below under Transportation.

FOR ANY Covid-19 QUESTIONS: CONTACT the Town Office at (846-3148).

WHAT IF YOU NEED EMERGENCY HELP?

As always, **CALL 911**.

The Chebeague Fire and Rescue remains on call 24/7 for all emergencies throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Emergency response continues to operate as usual. You can count on the Fire and Rescue's rapid, professional and caring response to any call.

All 911 calls for possible COVID-19 emergency cases receive special care.

Here is what happens to determine whether you might need COVID-19 emergency care.

1. Call 911
2. The 911 dispatcher asks you a series of questions. Give clear, honest answers to their questions about any fevers, cough, shortness of breath. This will give the rescue crew on Chebeague and on the Mainland the information required to help protect themselves and others from contracting COVID-19.
3. Chebeague Fire and Rescue will arrange safe transportation to the mainland on the CTC and to the hospital.

The procedures are designed to care for the patient and to protect rescue personnel as well as the CTC and the community at large.

No passengers or freight are permitted on the ferry. Only Chebeague Fire and Rescue personnel accompany the patient on the ferry to Cousins Island. The CTC crew will have no contact with the patient. Vehicles and pedestrians on the Stone Wharf and the Cousins Island Wharf must clear the wharf to allow the safe transport of the patient to and from the ambulance.

TRANSPORTATION

Chebeague Transportation Co. (CTC)

Visit the [CTC website](#) for special COVID-19 updates, schedule changes and CTC COVID-19 safety procedures for crew and passengers. All updates are posted at the very top of their home page (www.chebeaguetrans.com). You are encouraged to sign up for email and text alerts for the latest information.

At this time, the CTC has a reduced COVID-19 schedule and has established safety protocols for crew and passengers. Bus service to Route One has been suspended. The CTC has special COVID-19 non-contact tickets with safe procedures. Call the CTC Office to purchase your book. Unused tickets may be redeemed at the end of the emergency. All passengers must sign a COVID-19 General Passenger Agreement before using the ferry service.

Additional safe social distancing requirements include: no more than 20 passengers are permitted on the boat and masks are required. Masks will be made available on board for a suggested contribution of \$5 that will be donated to a local nonprofit. Call the CTC Office, 846-3700, for more information or visit their website, www.chebeaguetrans.com.

Casco Bay Lines (CBL) 774-7871, cascobaylines.com

The [Casco Bay Lines](#) has a reduced schedule and has implemented COVID-19 safety protocols while providing essential ferry transportation between Chebeague and our neighboring islands. This includes transportation for suspected COVID-19 patients in designated areas. Please review their safety policies and updated schedule on their website.

Fogg's Boat Works (Water Taxi, 415-8493) [Fogg Water Taxi](#) is available to take Chebeaguers off-island for testing and take people back to island - even if tested positive for the coronavirus. Contact Evan Fogg with questions.

FOOD

The Store - Doughty's Island Market is open and closely following CDC-recommended safety procedures. They are providing curbside pick-ups and order by phone. Contact Julie (846-9997) for the most up-to-date hours and grocery services. Please do not leave messages on the voicemail.

From the Food Pantry - Based at the Parish House, the Food Pantry has stocked their shelves so everyone can supplement their provisions and stay at home. While the Food Pantry typically helps those on the island with food insecurity, in these uncertain times the **Food Pantry is available to everyone to supplement your grocery needs and reduce trips to the mainland.** For instance:

- If you are trying to avoid going to town for a few needed items
- Or just feel like having soup for lunch and you just ran out.
- Or need basic items for your pantry

Fresh Produce: In addition there will be fresh produce available outside during those hours. The team is tracking island-friendly food sources such as [Olivia's](#) and [Native Maine](#), so contact them for updates on their growing list of companies serving the island.

The Food Pantry is open on **Wednesdays from 10:30-12:30.** **If possible email them a list of items and they will package them and bring them outside for you to pick up.**

Email Jenn Howard at jahoward2@gmail.com. If you need to call you can call Jenn 415-271-0096 or Denise Hamilton 207-838-6107. You may also bring a list of your needs, drive up to get curbside support from the volunteers.

The Food Pantry is implementing CDC safe procedures and wearing masks and gloves. Please do the same. Masks, made by Nancy Hill and others, are available at the Pantry.

The Food Pantry accepts food and monetary donations at the Church. It also has a PayPal account for making donations simpler: visit www.chebeagueumc.org/donate.html and email the church at chebeagueislandumc@gmail.com noting that it's ear-marked for the Food Pantry.

OTHER COMMUNITY NOTICES

Face Masks for Safety COVID-19 is spreading at the community level in Cumberland County. Protect yourself and others by wearing a face mask or a scarf to cover your nose and mouth when you are outside around other people or if you or someone in your family is quarantining at home because of possible COVID-19. You can find one at the Food Pantry, the Post Office or at Julie's. You can also join others by helping to make face masks by contacting Karen Corson at 846-0938. Contact Polly at 846-5683 if you need help obtaining a mask.

For a reliable, Frequently Asked Questions about Masks, see the CDC website and the U.S. Surgeon General's guidance.

Samaritan Fund

If you or someone you care about is in need of financial assistance for fuel or medicine, you may contact Esther Knight at 846-4178. All calls are strictly confidential.

Chebeague Island Historical Society

The Historical Society has launched “[Project Resilience](#)” in an effort to build community and artistic connections during the pandemic. For more information, contact the Historical Society 846-5237 or email Chebeaguehistory@gmail.com and see the enclosed description.

OPEN

Post Office

Transfer Station

Island Commons (closed to visitors, you may contact residents with messages at islandcommonsresidents@gmail.com)

CLOSED

Chebeague Island School (CIS)

Chebeague Island School is instructing students via distance learning until the end of the year. The school building and all school/Rec Center grounds, including the playground and the ballfield, are closed to the public.

Chebeague Island Historical Society

Chedemption

Chebeague Recreation Center/Kids Place

Chebeague Island United Methodist Church

Celebrations are being held via ZOOM.

Chebeague Island Inn

Chebeague Island Community Center (The Hall, The Library, The Island Council)

Covid-19 RESOURCES

Town of Chebeague

www.townofchebeagueisland.org Covid-19 Tab

U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC)

www.cdc.gov

Coronavirus.gov

Governor Mills

www.maine.gov/governor/mills/covid-19

Chebeague.org/covidupdate.pdf

ChebWeb.com

[211](tel:211)

Health & Human Services Disaster Distress Helpline:
800-985-5990

[FAQ on the Coronavirus by the U.S. Surgeon General's Office](#)

Chebeague Island Historical Society
TOWN OF CHEBEAGUE
COVID-19 UPDATE
Chebeague Is, ME 04017

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