



June 12, 2020

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update #7 General Update

New in this update:

- [Governor's Stay at Home Order](#)
- [Town Office Building to Open](#)
- [Playgrounds, Courts, & Skateboard Park to Open](#)
- [Pool & Splash Pad Remain Closed](#)
- [Transfer Station Closed July 3-6, 2020 for Independence Day](#)

The Town of Bedford is committed to providing a high level of service for the community, while also prioritizing the health and safety of our employees. We are monitoring the coronavirus pandemic and utilizing information from the State of NH DHHS and the CDC in our decision making. This situation is evolving daily and information will be updated as it becomes available via the [town web site](#) and our social media channels. The Town's Emergency Management team is evaluating information, keeping in touch with community and State partners and will also provide updates as necessary.

- ❖ **STAY AT HOME EMERGENCY ORDER** – The Governor has announced that he will allow the Stay at Home Order to expire on June 15, 2020 with a Safer at Home recommendation to take its place. Certain aspects of the economy must continue with restrictions such as restaurants and retail operating at 50% capacity while everyone should be following the State's [Universal Guidelines](#).
- ❖ **TOWN OFFICE BUILDING - TO OPEN** – All departments in the Town Office Building will fully reopen on June 15, 2020 to the public from 8 AM – 4 PM. At risk members of our community or anybody else who is not comfortable coming in can make an appointment for 4 PM by contacting the department they need to work with. It is still recommended that you continue to complete as many transactions as you can online or through the mail whenever possible as maximum occupancy in our lobby is 4 customers. **Please wear a face covering and keep a 6 foot separation to others when coming to the building. Masks can be provided if you don't have one of your own.**
- ❖ **PLAYGROUNDS, COURTS, & SKATEBOARD PARK – TO OPEN** - While we have no way to clean these surfaces within current CDC recommendations all of our public courts and playgrounds will open on June 15, 2020 when the Stay at Home Order expires for use at your own risk. Please maintain all social distancing and hygiene recommendations. **The Town Pool and Splash Pad remain closed** at this time while we review our options under the new guidance issued on June 11, 2020.

- ❖ **PUBLIC LIBRARY** – The Library is continuing to offer contactless curbside pickup of library materials for cardholders 10 AM – 2 PM, Monday – Saturday, and Wednesday 5 – 7 PM.

HOW IT WORKS:

- Place a request on a Bedford item by using the [online catalog](#) or by calling 472-2300.
 - We will call you when your item(s) is ready for pickup.
 - Before you leave the house for the Library, or when you arrive, call 472-2300. We will then check the item(s) out to you and place your item(s) on the table outside the main entrance. After the staff person has returned to the building, come to the table to pick up your items.
 - Read, enjoy, and return in the outdoor bookdrop between 10 AM - 2 PM, Monday – Saturday.
- ❖ **TEMPORARY OUTDOOR DINING PERMIT** – The Town has created a [temporary permit](#) allows existing food service establishments that choose to operate under the “NH Stay at Home Order 2.0” to begin serving customers through outdoor seating. Establishments with previously approved outdoor seating do not need a temporary permit unless they request additional seating beyond what has been previously approved
 - ❖ **THE TRANSFER STATION REMAINS OPEN** - We know a lot of you are using this time at home to get your Spring cleaning done. Our busiest day each week is Saturday so please consider coming another day if you can. Please be patient and maintain social distancing with each other and our employees. Regular Hours: Tue 7-5, Wed 8:30-5, Thur 8:30-7, Fri & Sat 8:30-5. **Special Note: The Transfer Station will be close July 3-6 in celebration of Independence Day.**
 - ❖ **BEDFORD CARES** – A group of Bedford residents lead by Councilor Ricciardi have formed Bedford Cares to assist residents with any non-emergency needs such as shopping for food or medicine or anything you might need and are also supporting our first responders with sanitizer and other supplies. They have also teamed up with the Bedford Food Pantry to support their efforts which continue to grow. If you are in need of their help or you want to assist in the effort please contact them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/BedfordNHcares/> or by calling at (603) 792-1319.
 - ❖ **PUBLIC MEETINGS WILL GO ON** – In order to meet the Universal Guidelines some public meetings may continue to be virtual while we review what options we have. The Governor has provided for public meetings to continue during the Stay at Home Order by allowing the board or commission members to be present over the phone or virtually and allowing the public to listen to the meeting over the phone. Our Council, Planning Board, ZBA, and other meetings continue to be completed in this virtual manner using a video and phone conferencing platform called [Zoom](#). It is easy to use and access instructions will be provided to the public when the agenda is published. Meetings can also be viewed on Channel 22 (Comcast); and via live stream and on-demand from BCTV's website <https://www.bedfordnh.org/393/BCTV>.
 - Comments for items appearing on a Planning Board, Zoning Board, Conservation Commission, or Historic District Commission agenda can be made to the Planning Department at planning@bedfordnh.org.

- Comments regarding items on Town Council agendas can be sent to the Councilors at councilors2@bedfordnh.org or the Town Manager at rsawyer@bedfordnh.org.

❖ **THE SAFETY COMPLEX, LIBRARY, & HIGHWAY GARAGE ARE CLOSED TO VISITORS (EXCEPT AS NOTED).**

Employees continue to work in the buildings and at home to complete all aspects of official business. If you do come to the Safety Complex you will see that there is a phone located in the lobby with direct connections to the Fire Department, Building & Health Department and DPW. Please use this phone to contact the appropriate department.

Coronavirus Resources:

1. State of NH COVID-19 Telephone Hotline: 2-1-1 (for additional information & assistance) is being staffed 24/7.
2. Town of Bedford Coronavirus website: <https://www.bedfordnh.org/892/Town-of-Bedford-Coronavirus-Information>
3. State of NH Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Website: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/2019-ncov.htm>
4. CDC Coronavirus Website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>