



Peaks COVID-19 Response Committee Updates and Bulletins

Advisory from the Peaks Island Council for Those who may be Planning to Return to Their Seasonal Homes or Vacation on Peaks Island During the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Peaks Island, like communities across the country, is experiencing the impact of the covid-19 pandemic. If you are planning to come to Peaks Island, it is essential that you have a complete understanding of the current conditions here. We hope you also understand some of the community's trepidation with welcoming a swell in our population. Currently, there are no known cases of COVID-19 on island, but this is a virus that spreads with travel, so anxiety is high about receiving travelers.

With those things in mind, Here's what it is like and things change daily:

- Casco Bay lines has drastically reduced ferry service, particularly car service, to Peaks Island.
- The Peaks Island Taxi is not running
- The Island Health Center has reduced operations to one day a week.
- Hannigan's Island grocery store has reduced hours.
- As is the case across Maine, all non-essential businesses are closed (the Legion, Cafe, Cockeyed Gull, and the Inn).
- The Library, and Community Center are closed.
- The island has one police officer and one EMT to manage emergency illnesses. The fireboats serve multiple islands. It is an hour from call to hospital should someone fall ill. Respiratory emergencies require immediate action.
- Maine Medical Center (MMC) is the only level 1 trauma hospital in Maine. As COVID-19 cases swell, MMC will quickly become overwhelmed.

As a community, we ask that you consider delaying your return, or your visit, to Peaks when the services supporting the island are back to normal. If you have a choice, we hope you take these things into consideration and choose to stay where you are.

**If you do choose to come to Peaks Island,
Here's what is expected of you:**

- Self-quarantine UPON ARRIVAL for 14 days.
- Come prepared to provide most, if not all, of your provisions.
- If you are sick, call your Primary Care Physician first.
- If you need emergency medical assistance, CALL 911
- If you are sick and need to go to town, go in your car with windows up
- Practice diligent hand hygiene and distancing at the ferry terminal and on the boat. The boat is our lifeline. If crews get sick, we won't have a ferry.
- Do not go to Hannigan's Market unless you have self-quarantined for 14 days after arriving. Do NOT go to the store if you are ill. Have someone help you with your shopping.
- Do not take reusable shopping bags in to Hannigan's. Portland has waived the charge for bags because reusable bags are thought to be a means of transmission.

**Peaks Island Council
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