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Town of Cranberry Isles Policies and Guidelines for Covid-19

May 5, 2020

To The Residents and Inhabitants of the Town of Cranberry Isles:

We hope this letter reaches you in good health and positive thoughts. The Pandemic of Coronavirus is on everyone's minds. With the annual influx of residents that we are about to receive we need to remind everyone of their personal responsibilities and responsibility to the health and welfare of the community regarding Covid-19. Boundaries will provide more certainty in an uncertain time.

Like most small rural communities, we are concerned about Covid-19 arriving on our small island community. The uniqueness of our island home makes this such a beautiful place. But while it is beautiful it can have certain limitations. Being sick on an island is very different and can create difficult situations. With the rapid spread and nature of Covid-19, the islands could be the worst place for someone if they are sick. Not to mention the rapid spread to other community members if the proper sanitation and precautions are not taken by individuals. The task of getting someone off to the small hospital in Bar Harbor with its limited beds may put others in harm's way. While we all love being here, our hope is that while we are on the islands' we stay safe and healthy.

You might be wondering what this summer will be like. Leadership from our Governor and the Maine CDC takes the lead for this Public Health Crisis. As things develop from their offices we continue to follow and implement their guidelines and recommendations in our community. Currently we are asking all residents to follow the Maine CDC recommendations of proper hand washing, sanitation, social distancing and mask wearing. The Governor has also stated that anyone traveling to Maine from another state **must** quarantine for 14 days after they arrive.

We encourage you to keep checking with the Maine CDC as well as our Town Website for up to date information. More information on Covid-19 and the Governor's Emergency Order visit <https://www.maine.gov/covid19/>

With that in mind, the following are the guidelines that the Board of Selectmen have adapted for the Town of Cranberry Isle:

***When you arrive back to your seasonal home you are asked to self-quarantine. This is for all residents that are returning for the summer seasons; per Town of Cranberry Isles policy, this will also including residents arriving from other areas within Maine. Review Maine CDC and Maine.Gov for specific details on quarantining.**

• Self-quarantine: Means stay at home, Do not go to public places for any reason, plan to have 14 days of food available or arrange to have it delivered to you, and do not have visitors to your home.

*** Please do not rent your home out to seasonal visitors at this time.**

*** Please wear a mask in places where social distancing cannot be achieved. This would include the Post Offices, The Transfer Stations, the Docks, The Ferries, Cranberry General Store and the Cranberry Isles Fishermen's Co-op Store.**

The State of Maine is currently on a Stay Safer at Home order for all residents. This means that you must stay in your home or on your property unless you need to go out for essentials.

Essentials are things such as grocery shopping and doctor appointments, prescriptions or other essential tasks. Governor Mills is also encouraging folks to get out and walk while maintaining social distancing. Maine is reopening in phases and we encourage you to look at the Governor's plan which can be found here www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-extends-maines-stay-home-order-2020-04-30

Groceries, prescriptions and many other consumer purchases can be done online or through local stores. Items are still being delivered by our ferry services and/or mail order. As of now, both the Northeast Harbor (Beal & Bunker) and Manset (Cranberry Cove) ferry services plan on operating their regular ferry schedules for the spring, summer and fall. Residents and workers will be allowed to ride the boat and are asked to wear a face mask. They also will be following Maine CDC guidelines and rules for public transportation.

Upon arriving, self-quarantine is to ensure that we keep the Town of Cranberry Isles safe. By each one of us taking care of ourselves we in turn take care of the community.

Respectfully,

Richard F. Beal

Florence Joy Sprague

Cory R. Alley