



TOWN of NEW SHOREHAM

For Immediate Release:

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Block Island Issues Emergency Ordinance to Shelter-In-Place

Block Island, R.I. – As of 5pm on March 24th a Shelter in Place Emergency Ordinance went into effect on Block Island. The ordinance is in response to the current Covid-19 outbreak. The Town of New Shoreham adopted the ordinance for the purposes of protecting the public health, safety and/or general welfare of the Town.

Block Island has limited medical resources and a limited supply of medical equipment, medical personnel, personal protective devices and medicines to treat potential COVID-19 cases. Block Island is also concerned by the amount of people who have come to Block Island and what that means for our limited island resources.

Block Island's lifeline transportation services remain running; however, all restaurants, bars and town offices are closed to the public, including the library. All non-essential work must stop. All Hotel, Inns, House Rentals and similar are to stop taking reservations for the time frame of the ordinance, and reservations on the books for this time frame must be cancelled.

Residents of Block Island are encouraged to restrict travel off island for essential purposes only such as medical care, care of a family member, and obtaining food and other provisions.

ANY person crossing over to Block Island must immediately self-quarantine for fourteen days upon arrival on Block Island, and thereafter must shelter-in-place.

The ordinance is in effect through April 15th. By visiting www.new-shoreham.com you can find the full ordinance, an informational FAQ section as well as a "handout" to be shared with anyone making the crossing over to Block Island or thinking of travelling here.

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