



**AMENDED EMERGENCY ORDINANCE OF THE  
TOWN OF NEW SHOREHAM  
May 20, 2020**

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization designated the coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the Rhode Island Department of Health established an Incident Command System response to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2020, the United States Health and Human Services Secretary declared a public health emergency for the entire United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Governor Gina M. Raimondo has issued the following Executive Orders:

Executive Order 20-02 declaring a disaster emergency due to the outbreak of COVID-19 dated March 9, 2020;

Executive Order 20-03 containing a supplemental emergency declaration dated March 13, 2020;

Executive Order 20-04 containing a second supplemental emergency declaration regarding restaurants, bars, entertainment venues and public gatherings dated March 16, 2020;

Executive Order 20-05 containing a third supplemental emergency declaration regarding public meetings and public records requests dated March 16, 2020;

Executive Order 20-06 pertaining to expanding access to telemedicine services dated March 18, 2020;

Executive Order 20-07 pertaining to weapon and firearm background checks dated March 20, 2020;

Executive Order 20-08 pertaining to restaurants, bars and establishments that offer food dated March 20, 2020; and

Such additional executive orders as the governor may issue.

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the outbreak of COVID-19 to be a Pandemic;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the President of the United States addressed the nation about the threat posed by the outbreak of COVID-19 and announced a restriction on international air travel from certain European nations for a period of thirty days starting on March 12, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the United States State Department issued an extraordinary global health advisory;

WHEREAS, as of March 15, 2020, the outbreak of COVID-19 had spread to every continent except Antarctica and infected more than 152,000 people, causing approximately 6,000 deaths;

WHEREAS, the number of countries that are experiencing community transmission of COVID-19 continues to grow;

WHEREAS, community transmission in the United States has occurred in many states and is an immediate public health threat to the elderly and those with underlying health conditions;

WHEREAS, cases of COVID-19 have been documented in the State of Rhode Island;

WHEREAS, the State of Rhode Island and various public health officials have reached out to the Town of New Shoreham to take steps to contain the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the Town of New Shoreham is required to enforce the Governor's Executive Orders to limit the spread of COVID-19;

The Town Council of the Town of New Shoreham does hereby adopt the following emergency ordinance for purposes of protecting the public health, safety and/or general welfare of the Town which are imminently imperiled by COVID-19:

1. A state of emergency was declared in the Town of New Shoreham due to the risks to the public health and safety posed by COVID-19. The original emergency ordinance was effective as of 12:01 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020; the first amendments to the emergency ordinance were effective as of 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020; the second amendments to this ordinance were effective as of 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2020; the third amendments to this ordinance were effective as of 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2020; and this fourth amendment, which revises the third amendment only to the extent that licenses and permits for bicycles, motorized bicycles, motorized tricycles and motor scooters are no longer suspended, became effective on May 20, 2020. This entire ordinance, as amended, shall continue in full force and effect until midnight on June 1, 2020. The effective period may be amended as circumstances warrant.

2. All Town offices and facilities except for public safety offices shall close and all non-essential Town employees shall be put on paid administrative leave until further notice; provided, however, that the administrative leave status of Town employees may be amended by the Town Manager and First Warden. The determination as to which employees are essential shall be at the discretion of the Town Manager and the Town Manager may call back any employee in the event of an urgent matter requiring immediate attention.

3. All restaurants, bars and other establishments that offer food and/or beverages to the public shall comply with all State of Rhode Island executive orders, rules and/or regulations.

4. All gatherings of people shall comply with all State of Rhode Island executive orders, rules and/or regulations.

5. Deleted

6. All Town departments, agencies, quasi-municipal agencies, boards and commissions are instructed to fully cooperate with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency and with the New Shoreham Emergency Management Agency in all matters regarding this ordinance.

7. Licenses and Permits:

a. Deleted.

b. Any and all licenses and permits issued by the Town including, without limitation, special event permits and outdoor entertainment licenses, are subject to the COVID-19 orders and regulations issued by the State of Rhode Island and the Town of New Shoreham.

c. The expiration date of all taxi and motor vehicle for hire licenses is extended to June 30, 2020.

d. No license/permit issued by the Town shall be subject to loss or revocation during the 2020 calendar year for the license/permit holder's failure to use the license during the 2020 calendar year.

8. Travel to Block Island is discouraged for any non-resident. Full-time residents 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. All persons shall comply with the quarantine requirements of State of Rhode Island executive orders, rules and/or regulations.

9. Only transient workers may commute to Block Island who are engaged in Restricted Activities, as hereinafter defined; provided, however, that all such transient workers are restricted as follows:

- workers must inform the Town Manager's designee as posted on the Town's website (in addition to such other posting places as the Town Manager may determine appropriate) prior to coming to the island;
- workers may not go to any location on the island other than to the job site where they will engage in a Restricted Activity and back to the ferry and/or airport to leave the island;
- workers must wear face masks and have hand washing and/or hand sanitizer readily available to them;
- workers must maintain a daily log of personal contacts;
- workers must maintain social distancing and the CDC and Rhode Island Department of Health Guidelines must be followed; and
- workers who are required to spend the night for work purposes on Block Island must follow the self-quarantine requirements of this ordinance with the exception that such workers may go directly to and from their respective work locations.

The term "Self-Quarantine" means that you must proceed from the ferry or airport directly to your residence without making any stops, remain at your residence except for medical care or emergencies, have food and other necessities delivered, and monitor yourself for symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath.

All persons on Block Island are encouraged to conduct Restricted Activities by themselves, in order that minimal contact/exposure may be achieved.

The term "Restricted Activities" includes activities relating to the following: public safety; public works; medical care; emergency and/or scheduled veterinary care; public utilities such as water, sewer and electric; sale and purchase of gasoline, sale and purchase of propane and heating oil; delivery of medicines; transfer station; sale and purchase of liquor as provided in this emergency ordinance; sale and purchase of hardware and lumber; post office; package delivery; sale and purchase of groceries; sale and purchase of take-out food; banking; education as it directly relates to development of curriculum and its distribution; farming and agriculture; commercial fishing, lobstering and shellfishing; emergency appliance repair, emergency

telecommunications network repair; emergency exterminator services; emergency heating repair; emergency heating installation; emergency vehicle repairs.; water testing; radon testing; water filter maintenance; personal property moving; real estate and other appraising; legal, medical, accounting and/or engineering consulting; real estate selling/leasing; delivering of ordered goods; inspecting/installing of sprinkler systems, fire systems, plumbing, HVAC and electrical systems.

All outside activities and work activities including, without limitation, office workers, must be conducted in accordance with all State of Rhode Island executive orders, rules and/or regulations.

10. Any person who may have come in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 must immediately self-quarantine for fourteen days before coming to Block Island.

11. Any person who is under self-quarantine direction who wants to go to the Block Island Medical Center must first contact the medical center for instructions as to how to proceed. This directive does not apply to persons requiring emergency medical care or assistance.

12. All persons on Block Island shall fully comply with all federal, state and local emergency directives and orders as shall be from time to time amended.

13. All short-term lodging owners and operators, including their agents and employees, shall cease taking new reservations pertaining to occupancy dates which would occur prior to June 1, 2020. For purposes of this emergency ordinance, "short-term lodging" shall include but is not limited to, lodging of thirty (30) days or fewer in hotels, inns, motels, online rental platforms including but not limited to air bnb's and vrbo's, lodges, bed and breakfasts, houses, condominiums, time-shares, cottages and retreats. All short-term lodging reservations, contracts, and/or agreements pertaining to reservations involving occupancy which is occurring or which is to occur during the effective period of this emergency ordinance are cancelled. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to housing for transient, commuting workers engaged in Restricted Activities.

14. A violation of any provision of this emergency ordinance is punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) or imprisonment not exceeding thirty (30) days. Each day any violation of this emergency ordinance shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.

15. The New Shoreham Police Department is instructed to enforce the provisions of this emergency ordinance.

Town Clerk:

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Fiona Fitzpatrick

First Warden:

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Kenneth C. Lacoste