

COVID-19 UPDATE FROM NORTH ELBA SUPERVISOR JAY RAND

May 17, 2020

Dear Citizens of North Elba,

This week's letter includes many positive updates regarding reopening. These are possible because of your diligence. As a community we have pulled together to follow [NYS COVID-19 guidelines](#) to slow the spread. We must hold strong to continue this progress. Our physical, emotional and economic health depend on it.

The big news as you have all heard is that the North Country Region has met all seven requirements to slow the virus's spread. Consequently, industries and businesses listed within **Phase 1** (includes construction, manufacturing and select retail (with curbside pickup)) were permitted to reopen with [safety guidelines](#). Businesses must develop a written Safety Plan outlining how its workplace will prevent the spread of COVID-19. A template is available on the website.

The [North Country Chamber of Commerce](#) is providing informational webinars for all businesses in preparation of reopening. This week's offerings include information for restaurants and food/beverage service, lodging and accommodations, and manufacturing. You can also view the recorded trainings from last week which included Construction Safety Resource Officer.

In two weeks if no spikes occur and the seven requirements are held firm, **Phase 2** can begin with the governor's orders. This phase includes professional services, finance and insurance, retail, administrative support, and retail estate/rental leasing.

This week has included a substantial increase in testing. Essential workers are encouraged to get tested.

[Essex County Health Department \(ECHD\)](#) has announced testing locations including:

UVM Health Network Locations

Elizabethtown Community Hospital (518-873-3069) Daily by appointment.

Elizabethtown Community Hospital -Ticonderoga Campus (518-585-3927) Daily by appointment.

Adirondack Health Locations (518-897-2462)

AMC Center Covid 19 Clinic (Mon-Fri) 12pm-5pm

Keene Health Center (Tue) 1pm-4pm

Mobile Testing (sites vary) (Mon-Fri) 11am-3pm

As of Monday, **May 18th the Lake Placid Village and Town of North Elba Main Offices** will reopen. Only the immediate foyer area will be open for walk-in visitors. The upper floors will remain closed but may be accessed by appointment. Appointments can be made by calling the appropriate [Village](#) or [Town](#) office. Social distancing and masks are required.

Many of you will be pleased to hear that the **Tennis Courts** are also reopened. Please follow the [United States Tennis Association Playing Tennis Safety Tips and Recommendations](#) and most importantly maintain social distancing. Hand sanitizers will also be available within the courts. The weather looks nice next week so enjoy. Stay fit to stay healthy.

It looks like a great week to SAFELY hit the links! **Craig Wood Golf Course** had a good opening week and the course is really shaping up. Starting this week we will be able to offer golf carts, clubhouse restrooms as well as limited access to the pro shop. Get your [2020 Club Membership](#) for only \$199 now!

The **North Elba Town Board** was able to hold their May meeting to meet in person at the town this week. Social distancing was maintained and masks were worn. The public could listen in on a designated phone number. Minutes will be available soon for those who are interested.

Similar procedures will be used for the **Essex County Board of Supervisor's** meeting on Monday, May 18th at 10 a.m.

The **Recycling Center** had a very successful opening week under their [new operating guidelines](#). Highway Supervisor, Ken Porter has informed me they plan to open on Wednesdays only for commercial business. They will allow vehicles to back into the building to unload (not permitted other days.) The current schedule is:

General public: Tuesday and Saturday (8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.)

Commercial business: Wednesday (8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.)

! IMPORTANT - NORTH ELBA'S CENSUS RESPONSE RATE IS WAY BELOW THE AVERAGE TOWNSHIPS – WE NEED TO BE COUNTED!

If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the [2020 Census questionnaire](#). It's quick, easy, safe, secure, and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected. Your response helps to direct billions of dollars in federal funds to **OUR community** for schools, roads, and other public services. Results also determine the number of seats OUR state has in Congress and OUR political representation at all levels of government. ! Please register and help our cause! DO IT NOW!

The social, emotional, and economic toll of life on pause because of the COVID-19 pandemic is especially hard on children in low-income households, the working poor, and seniors. That's a

big reason why this is a time for philanthropy that provides assistance to our most vulnerable neighbors. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, **Adirondack Foundation** and key partners have worked to distribute over **\$550,000 in grants to more than 90 Adirondack organizations, schools, and communities** providing crucial services - access to food, childcare for essential workers, face masks, and PPE.

Local grants have been made to **Lake Placid Central School** to provide fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, cleaning supply and basic household needs assistance to area families whose main source of income has been disrupted or lost, as well as **Northwood School**, which has been hard at work using 3D printers to produce face shields and other PPE. A full list of grants can be [viewed here](#). If you're interested in supporting Adirondack Foundation's continued response to the pandemic, [you can do so here](#). If you're a nonprofit, school, or municipality working to help those in need during this time, [submit a grant application here](#).

Additional information and daily postings may be found on the [Town of North Elba Website](#), the [Town of North Elba Facebook](#) page, the [Lake Placid Village Facebook](#) page and [Friends of Jay Rand Facebook](#) page.

Relevant local information, including restaurants offering take-out, retail stores offering curbside pick-up, as well as this newsletter can be received by subscribing to the [Lake Placid Insider](#).

This is a time like no other that we have experienced, but we will overcome this difficult period and return to normalcy quicker if we ALL practice what the NYS Department of Health has asked us to follow including:

STAY HOME, DON'T TRAVEL, NO GROUP GATHERINGS, WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WARM WATER AND SOAP OR HAND SANITIZERS WITH AT LEAST 60% ALCOHOL, WEAR MASKS IN PUBLIC, ETC. STAY SAFE