

Dear Haworth Neighbor:

It has been a particularly eventful week since our last full Update. Our ongoing concern for containing the spread of the COVID virus was joined on center stage by Hurricane Isiasis, which wreaked havoc along the East Coast and caused severe damage and disruption of critical services. We have sent you several updates over the past nine days as we struggled to regain power and cable service and to begin the process of cleaning up the mess from downed trees and branches. Your Mayor and Council worked steadily throughout the storm and its aftermath to keep pressure on the power companies directly and to work with our elected officials at the Federal, State, and County levels to apply their influence to accelerate the restoration process. While the outages may have seemed endless, we can assure you that our efforts were rewarded in advancing Haworth on the priority list of the providers. We thank you for your patience and our DPW, Police, Ambulance Corps, Fire Department and our elected officials for their tireless efforts on our path.

To the best of our information, power has been restored fully to all residents, and cable service, with a few lingering exceptions, has also been restored.

We urge you to let us know if you are still without service so that we may intervene on your behalf. Also, please examine your property carefully to see if there are any downed or impeded lines, including on your roof, and to determine if there are branches that are in danger of falling.

Turning to the ongoing COVID crisis, we note that as of 10:00 am this morning, we have 46 confirmed cases cumulatively since the pandemic began. We have 5 new cases since our last Update on July 31. This is a total of 8 new cases in the last three weeks – a worrisome number considering we had only 3 confirmed cases in total in the previous two months. Note that we refer to these as ‘confirmed cases’, which includes only those reported to us by the County Department of Health. We are told informally by residents and neighbors that there may be additional cases that have not been reported or appeared in the official County report. There are two points worth making here:

- The increase in cases is in and of itself a matter for concern. It is evident that our observation, as stated in previous Updates, that there has been a certain relaxing of vigilance and adherence to Best Practices as we all get frustrated and impatient. Here we have proof that we cannot let down our guard or assume that the danger has passed. We must remain vigilant and committed to our masks and

social distancing as we prepare to send our children back to school. There is too much at stake to grow careless;

- Specifically, there is evidence that the upsurge in new cases throughout the State is coming from large gatherings at beaches and other public venues, and in local house parties and gatherings. We recognize the urge – even the need - to socialize but we can not stress enough the need for diligence and conscious decision-making if we are to control the virus and prevent further upswings.

We are not there yet – but we will get there only if we all make the personal sacrifices and endure the inconveniences necessary to protect our children, our neighbors, and ourselves.

MESSAGE FROM THE DPW:

Due to the significant effects of the storm, the Haworth DPW will be chipping branches as they are put out until storm damage is cleaned up before resuming its regular schedule. Please remember that even though you have storm damage, chipping rules still apply. All branches should be piled neatly at curbside with cut ends facing the same direction. All leaves, grass, sticks, and twigs must be placed in open containers or biodegradable debris bags for Monday pickup. Please do not put piles in the street as they will not be picked up. If you utilize a landscaper, please advise them not to place garden debris in the street.

Thank you for your cooperation.

See below for pertinent information regarding the storm aftermath as well as updates to the State's pandemic planning:

How to File Homeowners Insurance Claim:

Call your agent or insurance company. Call your agent or insurer as soon as possible to report your loss. Have your policy number ready along with any information that may be relevant, and have paper and pen to record the claim number, contact information for the assigned claim representative and any important information about your claim. Ask your agent or insurance company what documentation you will need to provide to

them. If you have any questions, your agent or insurance company will assist you.

Make necessary repairs. If your property has been damaged, it is important to make any necessary temporary repairs to protect the property from further loss or damage. For example, if windows are broken, have them boarded up to protect against vandalism or weather. Be sure to save all receipts or bills to submit for your claim.

Work with the claim adjuster. Your insurance company will assign a claim adjuster to inspect the damages and determine coverage. You should cooperate with the adjuster and keep written notes about conversations regarding your claim. The company should provide you with a copy of the damage estimate and if you request it, give you the name of a contractor who will do the work at the price estimated. You are not required to use the company's recommended contractor. If all or part of the loss is not covered, the company must explain how coverage is excluded under your policy.

Resolving disputes. If you and the insurance company do not agree, first try to resolve your issues with the company. Sometimes it helps to have your contractor speak directly with the claim adjuster. If you cannot resolve the dispute with your insurance company, you can:

- Contact the Department's Consumer Hotline at 1-800-446-7467 (8:30 am to 5:00 pm EST Monday-Friday), or go to the Department website and click on Consumer Assistance - Inquiries/Complaints, at <https://www.dobi.nj.gov>

Storm Reimbursements:

O&R announced that the company will reimburse customers for food and prescription medicine spoilage if they lost power for 48 consecutive hours or longer during Tropical Storm Isaias.

If you lost power for more than 48 consecutive hours as a result of the storm:

- Please fill out a claims form at: <https://www.oru.com/en/services-and-outages/claim-form> to cover your costs for spoiled food, medication or perishable commercial merchandise;
- if customers do not have computer access but wish to file a reimbursement form, they can obtain a form by calling O&R Customer Service at 1-877-434-4100 and they will send one to the customer
- Residential customers may receive reimbursements for up to \$235 with an itemized list, or up to \$540 with an itemized list and proof of loss (with receipts, photos etc.);
- Commercial customers are eligible for up to \$10,700 for losses of perishable merchandise spoiled due to lack of refrigeration (with receipts, photos, invoices, etc.).
- Requests for reimbursement must be filed on or before September 8, 2020.

Public Gatherings:

In an effort to contain the virus, The Governor has issued EO 173 which:

- limits the number of individuals at indoor gatherings that are not religious services or celebrations, political activities, wedding ceremonies, funerals, or memorial services, to 25% of the capacity of the room in which it takes place, but regardless of the capacity of the room, such limit shall never be larger than 25 persons or smaller than 10 persons;
- limits the number of individuals at indoor gatherings that are religious services or celebrations, political activities, wedding ceremonies, funerals, or memorial services shall be limited to 25% of the capacity of the room in which it takes place, but regardless of the capacity of the room, such limit shall never be larger than 100 persons or smaller than 10 persons;
- Allows all other requirements for indoor gatherings contained in Paragraph 1 of Executive Order No. 152 (2020) shall remain in effect. To read the Executive Order in full click [here](#).

Small Business Access Program:

Governor Murphy announced the first phase of the New Jersey Small and Micro Business PPE Access Program, designed to ensure that the State's small businesses and non-profits have access to the fairly priced personal

protective equipment (PPE) necessary to facilitate safe working conditions during the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications for online retailers to participate in the program are expected to launch as soon as possible. The public-facing website, including small business decision-making tools and vetted discounted retailers will follow by early-to-mid December. More information can be found on the State's COVID19.nj.gov website.

Local Notices:

From the Haworth Board of Health:

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

Be a HERO in your community and stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Share with others if you've been *exposed* or have *tested positive* for COVID-19. Informing your employer, school nurse, team coach and those you've had close contact with quickly can *drastically* reduce local transmission & save lives.

We're all in this together! See our flyer [here](#).

COVID Toolkit:

A community toolkit has been developed for the New Jersey Department of Health as part of the State's effort to educate New Jerseyans about the importance of COVID-19 testing and contact tracing. You will find more information about how contact tracing works, how the state is expanding testing, steps they're taking to protect your privacy, and what you can do to help stop the spread of COVID-19. To access the toolkit, click on this link: https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testandtrace?utm_source=Toolkit&utm_medium=Social&utm_campaign=NJDOH

The town has reported that we have new cases in town, and diligence for mitigation remains paramount. It's important to note that Bergen County is still in the lowest risk category and hospitals are not seeing cases surge.

To help control the spread of the virus, New Jersey has added two new states and one territory to its coronavirus quarantine travel advisory, while

five other states previously considered COVID-19 hotspots were dropped from the list.

The quarantine list now stands at 31 states, along with two territories. Hawaii, South Dakota, and the Virgin Islands were added Tuesday, while Alaska, Ohio, New Mexico, Rhode Island, and Washington were removed.

The travel advisory now includes:

- Alabama
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- California
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Montana
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Oklahoma
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia

- Virgin Islands
- Wisconsin

People traveling from those locations — including residents returning home — are being asked to voluntarily self-quarantine for 14 days and to seek a coronavirus test after arriving. (Source: [NJ.com](#))

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Haworth Swim Club: With Labor Day not until September, summer can last a little longer. Enjoy it at the Haworth Swim Club! Special rates are available. Find an application here: https://www.haworthnj.org/vertical/Sites/%7B3226EF68-541C-456F-8644-AC724E9AC52C%7D/uploads/Revised_2020_HSC_Membership_Application.pdf