

Dear Haworth Neighbor:

This has been a bit of a tougher week – we had two new confirmed cases of the virus, bringing our total number of cases to 37. Still low and only 5 new cases in the last 26 days – but it shows how fragile and volatile things still are. We can see the anxiousness and pent-up demand that all of you have to get outside, to enjoy the Spring, to socialize and exercise as the ‘stay at home’ days add up – and the frustration with masks, distancing, and so on. As you will see below, we have begun cautiously to relax some restrictions – but not to relax our encouragement of Best Practices – patience, self-control, and persistence still matter as does concern for your fellow Haworthians. So enjoy your walk, your run, your cycling – but keep your distance and wear your mask when social distancing is not possible.

We also call your attention to our virtual Memorial Day observance. The Pandemic has altered so many of our cherished traditions and unfortunately our annual Memorial Day parade and ceremony are no exception. We want to continue to honor and appreciate all those who give so much to the defense and preservation of our values and way of life – while minimizing congregating and the risks of spreading infection.

We recognize that Memorial Day historically has focused on those who have given their lives while serving in the military. In recent years, we in Haworth have expanded that recognition to all who served and all who continue to serve in the armed forces. Therefore, on Monday, your Mayor and Council and the Heads of your First Responders will place the traditional wreaths at Borough Hall and our other memorials. This will be taped and posted on the Borough’s website and other social media for you to view later in the week. *We ask that you not come to Borough Hall Monday morning.* We will then proceed in limited numbers through town to place American Flags on the lawns of all veteran families.

While we cannot be together this year to show our remembrance and appreciation, we will be together, virtually and in spirit, as a community.

God bless you and God bless America.

SUMMARY THOUGHTS:

We are in this together – we will endure and prosper together – stay strong – stay patient – stay firm – Haworth needs you.

PARKS UPDATE:

The Mayor and Council, in consultation with the Chief of Police, are pleased to announce that the Haworth parks, including Flats Road (a/k/a the Reservoir Trail), will re-open at *5 pm today, Friday, May 22nd*, for passive recreation, which includes fishing, walking, running/jogging and biking.

Social distancing is to be practiced except with immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners. If social distancing is not possible, masks are required.

Organized or contact activities or sports and gatherings of any kind are prohibited.

Please note that Haworth playgrounds (including the Fitness Park on Flats Road/Reservoir Trail) and all picnic areas (including Terrace Street Park) *remain closed and off-limits.*

The re-opening of our parks and the restrictions described above are consistent with the Executive Orders issued earlier in the month by the Governor and County Executive. We are confident that our residents will abide by these parameters.

Failure to do so will result in reclosing the parks.

MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER:

With the opening of the Borough's parks on a limited basis as described above, residents are reminded to observe the restrictions that are still in place and to adhere to social distancing policy when using the parks. Our officers will be patrolling and enforcing these restrictions when appropriate and your cooperation makes their job that much easier.

To reiterate reminders from prior weeks:

1. Golf courses in Haworth are now open and are private property. Please respect the property rights and boundaries of our community golf/country clubs, as you would want yours to be protected.
2. All residents are once again urged to drive safely and with their focus on the road and not on their phones.

Chief Gracey and the members of the Haworth Police Department wish all residents a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day Weekend.

To contact the Haworth Police Department, dial 201-384-1900. Dispatchers in Mahwah will promptly relay your call to our officers.

UPDATE ON TENNIS COURTS OPENING DAY:

The governor has reopened private tennis and the Haworth Tennis Committee (HTC) is working hard to get the courts ready for play. Based on the current timeline, we estimate that the Park Street courts will open in early June.

Please note: the tennis courts are for use by PERMIT only. If you wish to play, please download a permit application from the Borough website or by clicking [here](#). The HTC will email prior permit holders the new application.

UPDATE ON SWIM CLUB OPENING DAY:

As we await direction from the Governor's Office on municipal pools, we are continuing our pre-season preparations and creating guidelines and procedures that will ensure a safe and enjoyable season for all! Applications are available on the town website and by clicking [here](#).

UPDATE ON THE LIBRARY:

The Governor has indicated that Libraries would be part of Stage 2 in the state's plan to reopen. We are preparing the building with safety alterations in order to better protect employees and the public, including retrofitting with plexi-glass. The library continues to provide resources, programs, and assistance to all patrons! Visit the website for more information: <https://www.haworthlibrary.org>.

UPDATE ON USE OF NORTHERN VALLEY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES:

Effective May 22, use of the tennis courts and tracks at the Demarest and Old Tappan campuses is permitted between the hours of 9:00 am and 7:00 pm 7 days a week. School security will be present to monitor the facilities. All social distancing protocols must be followed at all times, courts may be used for singles play only, no doubles, courts may only be used for tennis and no other activities, and gatherings of any kind or congregating around the courts while waiting for a court to become available

is not permitted. For the protection of everyone, the School Administration will require masks to be worn by everyone who is not engaged in physical activity.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HAWORTH BOARD OF HEALTH:

On [May 12](#), and again on [May 20](#), Governor announced partnerships with pharmacies and labs to make testing widely available throughout the State.

As COVID-19 testing becomes more accessible, you may be wondering, “what are the benefits to doing the test?” If you currently have symptoms of COVID-19, which are fever, cough, shortness of breath, headache, body aches or gastrointestinal problems, the best test would be a nasal swab testing for active viral infection. If you suspect that you may have the virus, testing and self- quarantine is recommended. There is a possibility of a false negative, so if you feel sick, you should continue to self-quarantine. Testing can be repeated. A positive test means you have the virus and you should self-quarantine for 7 days from the onset of symptoms plus 3 days after symptoms resolve.

Antibody (or serology) tests are now available as well. They will test for exposure to the COVID virus. This test will be positive 7-10 days after the onset of symptoms. If you have a “positive” test, you may be immune to the Coronavirus but no one knows how long this immunity will last or if you are fully protected. There are also false positive and false negative results.

So, should you get tested? The data collected will be helpful in determining the prevalence of the virus in our population and the accuracy of the test itself. The more data that we have, the better we can protect ourselves in the future.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular Mayor and Council meeting shall be held this Tuesday, May 26th at 7:30 via Zoom. We will go directly into closed-session. We anticipate the public session will begin at approximately 8:00 pm. You may join the public portion of the meeting by clicking on this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85320479969> or by visiting the Borough website: <http://www.haworthnj.org>.

A copy of the agenda can be found [here](#).

NEW JERSEY’S “ROAD BACK: RESTORING ECONOMIC HEALTH THROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH”:

This week, the Governor unveiled a multi-staged approach for putting New Jersey on the road back to recovery from COVID-19. Click [here](#) for a one-page summary.

EXECUTIVE ORDER ALLOWING ELECTIVE SURGERIES TO RESUME:

As of May 26th, elective surgeries and invasive procedures, both medical and dental, are permitted to resume pursuant to Executive Order No. 145. Click [here](#) for a copy of the order.

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