

Dear Haworth Neighbor:

The watchword for this week is PERSISTENCE. As of this Thursday, May 14, we have had no new confirmed cases in the last week – and only 3 in the last 19 days! Clearly, we, as a community, have risen to the challenge that we posed last week – to achieve no new cases. While we can justly celebrate this milestone, we can congratulate ourselves only if we persist in our commitment to the Best Practices that have gotten us here – social distancing to limit the spread, using facemasks when required by law or when social-distancing is not possible to avoid infecting others, staying away from group gatherings, and sheltering at home. PERSISTENCE and discipline will make the difference in the face of increasing temptation as the weather warms and the State moves carefully to opening up – allowing curbside pickups at some non-essential retail stores, opening beaches, and so on. Remember that any premature relaxation of effective behaviors – any softening of persistence – could bring a spike of new cases.

Also, just a reminder that May is mental health month and Mental Health Anonymous meetings are happening every Thursday at 8 pm through June 18. Please visit the website at <https://mhanon.org/> to learn more and to join a virtual meeting.

### **SUMMARY THOUGHTS:**

And if you need help of any kind, please reach out to the Mayor at [Ference@haworthnj.org](mailto:Ference@haworthnj.org). We may not have the answers, but we will try to point you toward someone who may.

Stay strong – stay disciplined – stay PERSISTENT – we need each other to stay safe – Haworth needs us.

### **MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY – WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU:**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we must cancel the annual Memorial Day Parade scheduled for Monday, May 25. The borough is in the process of arranging a socially-distanced way to honor all those who have served and continue to serve in our military.

Please email Janet Gallagher at [Gallagher@haworthnj.org](mailto:Gallagher@haworthnj.org), by Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, the names and addresses of any Haworth veteran (including yourself), widows/widowers of veterans, or active-duty members.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSIONER AND CHIEF GRACEY:**

With no new confirmed cases in the past week, progress continues. With that said, a couple of things to bear in mind in light of the more consistent warm weather:

1. Please continue to observe social distancing policy and Borough park closures. We have seen sporadic incidents of gatherings and casual group sports in Borough parks. The parks and trails remain closed. This includes all ball fields including the fields at the Haworth School.
2. Golf courses are now open. We remind all residents that Haworth Country Club and White Beeches are private property. Please comply with all signage and respect the property rights of our community golf/country clubs – no trespassing.
3. All residents are once again urged to drive safely and with their focus on the road and not on their phones.

Please respect and cooperate with our officers as they enforce the current policies and closures. If they request that you leave a park or trail, or make a similar request, please do so.

**IMPORTANT: The Chief advises that there has been a significant uptick in “bail scams” in this area recently. These scams typically target the elderly and involve a telephone call indicating that a close relative (usually a grandson, etc.) is being held pending receipt of bail. The call can be from someone pretending to be the relative in question or pretending to be a law enforcement officer and customarily demands immediate payment via wire, bank transfer, etc. accompanied by requests for bank account and other personal information. THIS IS NOT HOW THE BAIL PROCESS FUNCTIONS. RESIDENTS ARE CAUTIONED TO BE AWARE OF THESE SCAMS AND NOT TO GIVE OUT ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION OVER THE PHONE.**

Birthday Drive-Bys (age 10 and under only) – email Chief Gracey at [mgracey@haworthnj.org](mailto:mgracey@haworthnj.org).

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

### **PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS:**

At this time, Borough parks, playgrounds and trails remain closed to the public. The Mayor and Council, in consultation with the Police, continue to monitor the situation and will advise you immediately when we re-open.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE RECREATION COMMISSIONER:**

As it currently stands, no decision has been made regarding our Summer Recreation Program. We do not know if the school will be available for the program but we are in contact with the School Administration in order to make a final decision.

The Music and Arts Committee is making preliminary plans for the Mid-Summer’s Jam, normally held in mid to late August at Memorial Field. We believe that *if* the Borough’s parks are reopened we would be able to host a socially-distanced jam.

### **SWIM CLUB:**

The Haworth Swim Club (HSC) is preparing for the summer by following the New Jersey Pool Manager recommendations and CDC guidelines. The HSC has created a survey to determine the concerns of members in an effort to plan the optimal summer for all. Click [here](#) to participate in the survey.

### **TENNIS:**

In anticipation of the state loosening the restrictions on outdoor activity, the Haworth Tennis Committee is working towards having the courts prepared for use. They will be following the USTA guidelines which continue to evolve as the situation changes. Membership details are being finalized and will be shared when they are ready.

### **LIBRARY:**

The library continues to operate virtually, available for patrons' concerns and requests, while offering new programs and activities, including:

- **Community Rock Garden:** Help us create a THANK YOU rock garden. Paint a rock any way you want and place it in the blue bin by the Library entrance. You can see a tutorial [here](#). Each week, we will post a picture of the progress of our garden on our website, Facebook, and Instagram.
- **Documenting Coronavirus Stories:** Now, more than ever, our libraries have the important task of embracing the future as stewards of the past. The Haworth Library's efforts to document the community's experience and history during the COVID-19 pandemic have been featured in an [article](#). And to see one of our more adorable submissions thanking hospital workers, click [here](#).

To learn more about any of the above, please visit [www.haworthlibrary.org](http://www.haworthlibrary.org).

### **HAWORTH-BASED BUSINESSES:**

In an effort to quickly communicate relevant and time-sensitive information to Haworth-based businesses, we recently mailed a form requesting contact information for businesses located in Haworth. Please return the form to Borough Hall by mail or by dropping in the Borough drop-box located by the Police Department.

If you did not receive a form, please email [Gallagher@haworthnj.org](mailto:Gallagher@haworthnj.org).

### **TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING UPDATES:**

This week, Governor Phil Murphy announced a comprehensive strategy to expand testing capacity and implement a robust contact-tracing program for New Jersey.

#### **TESTING**

- NJ will double its testing capacity and increase to at least 20,000 tests per day by the end of May. This capacity will be increased to a minimum of 25,000 tests completed per day by the end of June.
  - Currently, there are 135 public and privately operated specimen collection sites statewide. In addition to 11 Rite Aid locations, CVS will have swab-and-send testing capabilities at 50 of their stores across NJ by the end of May.
- Testing will be *prioritized for vulnerable populations*, including residents in long-term care facilities, developmental centers, individuals in the corrections system, those in homeless shelters, patients in psychiatric hospitals, and seasonal farmworkers. The state-testing program will also ensure ready access for frontline health care workers, first responders, and transit workers.
- All long-term care facilities in the state, which includes licensed nursing homes, assisted living facilities, dementia care homes, residential health care facilities and comprehensive personal care homes, shall implement testing of staff and residents for the virus by May 26.
- Testing sites will also open within institutions of faith including churches, synagogues, and mosques.
- The Department of Health is also issuing a standing order permitting testing for COVID-19 without a prescription for state residents who may have been exposed and meet certain conditions.

#### **CONTACT TRACING**

NJ will build a robust Community Contact Tracing Corps to augment the approximately 800-900 contact tracers on the ground; the state will need at least an additional 1,000 dedicated contact tracers. To jumpstart recruitment efforts, New Jersey will partner with the state's colleges and universities to employ public health, social work, and related students as frontline workers.

Additionally, individuals interested in becoming contact tracers may register their interest at <http://covid19.nj.gov/tracers>.

The state is seeking to partner with an organization to work as a Contact Tracing Deployment Provider to assist with hiring, on-boarding, and managing contact tracers throughout the state. Interested vendors and organizations can access more information, review the draft Request for Quotes, and submit questions and feedback at <https://covid19.nj.gov/CTRFQ>.

## **EXECUTIVE ORDER PERMITTING THE RESUMPTION OF NON-ESSENTIAL CONSTRUCTION, CURBSIDE PICKUP AT NON-ESSENTIAL RETAIL BUSINESSES, AND GATHERINGS IN CARS:**

On Wednesday, May 13, Governor Murphy signed Executive Order 142, a copy of which can be found [here](#), which permits the following:

**NON-ESSENTIAL CONSTRUCTION:** Non-essential construction projects may resume effective at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, May 18. All construction projects must abide by the social distancing, safety, and sanitization requirements that are described in detail in the Governor's Executive Order.

**CURBSIDE PICKUP AT NON-ESSENTIAL RETAIL BUSINESSES:** Non-essential retail businesses are allowed curbside pickup of goods, beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, May 18, but businesses must continue to have their in-store operations closed to customers. Businesses who choose to offer curbside pickup must abide by the requirements in the Order, which include but are not limited to the following:

- In-store operations should be limited to those employees who are responsible for the operations required for curbside pickup;
- Customer transactions should be handled in advance by phone, email, facsimile or other means that avoid person-to-person contact;
- Customers shall notify the retailer by text message, email, or phone once they arrive, or make best efforts to schedule their arrival time in advance. The customer should be asked to remain in their vehicle, if arriving by car, until store staff delivers the purchase;
- Designated employees should bring goods outside of the retail establishment and place goods directly in a customer's vehicle when possible, avoiding person-to-person contact; and
- Such businesses must follow social distancing and mitigation practices outlined in previous orders, including requiring workers to wear cloth face coverings when in contact with other workers or customers and gloves when in contact with goods or customers.

Retail businesses operating in shopping malls are permitted to operate by curbside pickup, in accordance with the other requirements of this paragraph, but staff must bring the goods to customers at the exterior of the mall. The indoor portions of shopping malls must remain closed, as required by the Governor's previous orders.

**CAR GATHERINGS:** The Order states that car gatherings do not violate the Governor's ban on gatherings under Executive Order No. 107. Examples of such car gatherings include but are not limited to drive-in movies, religious services, or drive-through farms or safaris. Car gatherings will be subject to the restrictions in the Order, which include but are not limited to the following:

- Attendees must remain in their same car throughout the gathering, unless 1) an occupant needs to get out of the vehicle for their health or safety or 2) an occupant needs to use the restroom;

- The vehicle must remain closed at all times unless 1) there is six feet of distance between other vehicles or individuals or 2) an officer, public official or guard requires the vehicle to open. There is a further exception allowing the opening of the vehicle if necessary for health or safety;
- Individuals organizing the gathering who are not in vehicles must follow social distancing and wear cloth face coverings; and
- To the degree that a gathering requires pre-payment, or seeks donations of any kind, contactless options for pre-payment or donation, such as online or by telephone, must be offered wherever feasible.