



City of Easthampton Situation Report

November 20, 2020

Holidays During COVID-19

Reminder that the MA Department of Public Health and the CDC have put out guidance regarding celebrating holidays during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Residents are encouraged to limit the size of gatherings for the holidays and invite only people they live with or encounter daily.

CDC and DPH also recommend wearing masks, social distancing, and handwashing.

All MA DPH guidance is available [HERE](#).

CDC guidance is available online [HERE](#).

The suggestions in the above guidance are intended to help keep everyone safe during the holiday season by lowering the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Mayor's Toy Fund

Signups for the 2020 Mayor's Toy Fund are still being accepted through the end of November.

The Toy Fund is open to Easthampton children ages 12 and under. For resources for children 13 and up, residents are encouraged to reach out to Robin from the Community Center at 413-527-5240.

To sign up, please fill out the Google Form available [HERE](#). If you cannot access the form, signups can also be accepted by phone at 413-529-1400 ext. 143.

Any questions, comments, or concerns can be sent by email to toyfund@easthamptonma.gov.

Easthampton-based Business Directory

The Easthampton Cottage Street Cultural District has decided to create an Easthampton Business Directory. This directory is open to all Easthampton-based businesses. It is free of charge to be listed in this directory.

The deadline to submit your information to be added to the directory is this upcoming **Monday, November 23, at 8:00pm**. Please see the following Google Form link to learn more and/or submit information:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfRzOYIFgstBtBI9q5yQaZUFs3oFvJEUOyH8P250d70C754XA/viewform>.

Volunteers Needed for City Ordinance Review Committee

On Wednesday, November 18, 2020, the Easthampton City Council voted to establish an Ordinance Review Committee. This committee will be composed of 7 members, including up to 3 city councilors with the remaining members to be filled residents of Easthampton and/or subject matter experts with relevant experience in this area.

TO APPLY: If you are interested in being considered for this committee, please forward your letter of interest, resume and any additional information to the City Council President, Peg Conniff at MCONNIFF@easthamptonma.gov by **DECEMBER 8, 2020**.

Applicants will be notified by December 14, 2020.

Additional information on the Review Committee is available [HERE](#).

Current City Ordinances can be reviewed online [HERE](#).

Stop & Shop Community Bag Program

The Easthampton Community Center has been selected as the recipient of the Community Bag Program for the month of November.

For every “Give Back” bag purchased at the 28 Lincoln Street Stop & Shop in Holyoke during the month of November, a \$1 donation will be sent to the Easthampton Community Center.

For more information on the Easthampton Community Center, check out their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/EasthamptonCommunityCenter>.

Healthy Youth Coalition

The Health Youth Coalition has received its 7th year of funding. Funding comes from the Drug Free Communities Grant, available through the CDC.

Through this grant, the Healthy Youth Coalition can continue working with local families to support healthy decision making.

To learn more information please click [HERE](#).

Any questions, comments, or concerns regarding EHYC should be directed to the coordinator, Rebecca Edwards, at ehyc@easthamptonma.gov.

Easthampton Public Schools Updates

November Grab and Go Meal Menus: All Grab & Go meals for the remainder of November and beginning of December can be found through this link.

Reopening Plan: It was decided at the Emergency School Committee meeting on Tuesday, November 17th, to delay the start of Grade 1 in the Hybrid Model until at least mid-December.

All programs currently in Hybrid Learning at the high school will end in-person learning at the conclusion of the day on Friday, November 20th, moving back into Remote Learning on Monday, November 23rd.

This decision will be re-evaluated on December 8th at 6:00pm during the School Committee meeting. Any questions or concerns should be directed to EPSD at 413-529-1500.

City Meeting Calendar Week of November 23rd to November 27th

Monday, November 23, 2020	Tuesday, November 24, 2020		Wednesday, November 25, 2020
City Council – Finance Subcommittee – 5:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	Retirement Board – 1:30pm	Planning Board – 6:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	Nash Pond Committee – 6:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>
Conservation Commission – 6:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	School Building Committee – 5:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	Cultural Council – 6:30pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	City Council – Ordinance Subcommittee – 6:30pm <u>Zoom Link</u>
Manhan Rail Trail Committee – 7:00pm <u>Zoom Link</u>	Board of Assessors – 5:15pm <u>Zoom Link</u>		

Please note: All agendas and Zoom links are also uploaded to the city website at <https://easthamptonma.gov/agendas-minutes.html>.

If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, please check out the vacancies list [HERE](#). The Application to Serve is available [HERE](#).