August 11, 2020

NEW YORK FORWARD/REOPENING GUIDANCE & INFORMATION

NYC DETAILS
New York City Region Status:

- **New York City entered phase four of reopening on July 20**
  - Mayor de Blasio announced that in **phase 4** of the city's reopening, which began Monday, July 21, **zoos** and **botanical gardens** can reopen with outdoor activities at 33% of their capacity.
    - New York Botanical Garden will open on **July 28th**
    - Brooklyn Botanic Garden will open to the general public by **August 7th**.
  - **Professional sports** are back but will not include fans to lessen the spread of the virus.
  - The production of **tv shows, movies, and music** will now resume with safety precautions.
  - Activities that currently remain closed/excluded from this final phase of reopening include:
    - indoor dining;
    - indoor bars;
    - serving alcohol without purchase of food;
    - gyms;
    - malls;
    - movie theaters; and
    - museums.

- Additional information can be found [here](#).
Mayor Bill de Blasio announced on Wednesday, August 5 that the City will establish COVID-19 traveler registration checkpoints at key entry points into New York City to ensure compliance with New York State quarantine requirements and further the containment of COVID-19. The new checkpoints at bridges and tunnels will stop cars and seek to enforce quarantine orders imposed by New York State, which require people coming from 34 states and Puerto Rico to self-isolate for up to 14 days to avoid spreading Covid-19. The city Sheriff’s Office, in association with other law enforcement agencies, will oversee the checkpoints and stop a random sampling of cars entering the city, reminding drivers of the quarantine order and requiring them to complete a registration form if they’re coming from a high-risk state. People violating the quarantine — which applies to both residents of the high-risk states and New Yorkers returning from visits — can be subject to fines up to $10,000. Individuals who refuse to fill out the New York State Department of Health travel form are subject to a $2,000 fine. See: Press Release

New York City Phase 3:
- New York City: New York City Reopening Guide
  - Phase 3 allows the reopening of nail salons, tattoo parlors, massage parlors, and spas, restricted to 50% capacity and with masks and social distancing requirements.
  - New Yorkers are also permitted to use outdoor recreational and sports facilities, including basketball courts and soccer fields, and dog parks.
  - In-door dining in restaurants is not permitted at this time.
- Phase 3 Guidance: Here and NYC Department of Health Guidance
- Progressing through the reopening phases allows for more shopping opportunities. NYC DOHMH has developed guidelines for How to Shop Safely
- With cases rising among New Yorker City residents, under the age of 40—especially for the 20-29 age demographic—the City will launch a comprehensive public outreach campaign targeting younger New Yorkers, educating about social distancing and face coverings, among other topics.
Face Coverings: As the city continues to reopen and more people return to work outside the home, New Yorkers should wear a face covering as much as possible when around other people in an indoor setting that is not their home.

Guidance for Phase 2 of Business Reopening:

Guidance for Restaurant Reopening

Regional Dashboard and metrics monitoring https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard

Human Services Council: COVID-19 Resources for Human Services Providers

New York City: Confidential 24/7 Hotline NYCWell

New York City has called off plans to allow indoor dining at restaurants in phase three in early July amid a spike in coronavirus cases in other parts of the country that is heightening fears of a resurgence in New York. (July 1)

Reopening NYC: What Workers Need to Know
NYC Consumer Affairs has created a Business Reopening Guide with information for workers. This guide contains information regarding what safety protocols your employer must follow, workplace laws, and other city resources. Additionally, the agency published a Worker Rights Page. This page contains many important updates for employees in multiple languages.

The Office of Nightlife has launched the “It’s Up to You, New York” public awareness campaign to encourage restaurants and bars, patrons and residents to work together to ensure that the rollout of New York City’s Open Restaurants allows people to socialize responsibly

New York City Phase 2:
Mayor de Blasio signed an executive order on Thursday, June 18 allowing expanded al fresco dining during Phase 2. Restaurants will be allowed to convert the parking spots in front of their stores into dining space. They can also set up tables on the sidewalk, even if they weren’t previously authorized to have a sidewalk cafe. Restaurants will also have the option to open their own backyards
and patios. However, social distancing is required, with at least 6 feet between tables, and allow enough space on the sidewalk for pedestrians to pass. Only establishments that serve food are eligible. Curbside seating is not permitted in bus stops, fire hydrants and no standing zones. Customers cannot congregate if they aren’t seated at tables.

- The City has established an expedited approval processes by allowing restaurants and bars to self-certify their eligibility for curb lane and sidewalk seating using a new, streamlined application process at NYC.Gov, which will be available starting Friday, June 19th. The mayor codified the guidance by signing Executive Order 126. See: Executive Order
  - in-store shopping,
  - office jobs;
  - hair salons and barbershops;
  - the real estate industry;
  - car dealerships;
  - City playgrounds—however, team sports, including basketball, football, softball and soccer, will remain prohibited.

- As part of the City’s entry into Phase 2 of the State’s “NY Forward” rubric, NYC Parks began re-opening playgrounds for the public effective today, Monday, June 22.
  - Comfort stations located within these previously closed areas are being reopened for the public. NYC Parks also began reactivating drinking water fountains within these areas.
  - NYC Parks staff is performing all necessary duties, including the removal of temporary fencing & barricades, to prepare the sites for safe public use and have these properties and features accessible as soon as possible.
  - The citywide enforcement effort to encourage social distancing among parkgoers remains in place, involving multiple City agencies, including NYPD, OSE, the Sheriff’s Office, DEP, DSNY, DOB, and FDNY. The City will continue to monitor conditions and determine if more severe restrictions are necessary.
To make it easier for New Yorkers to enjoy their parks and benefit from recreational opportunities, even if they’re staying indoors, NYC Parks has launched **Parks@Home**: a wide variety of online park tours, fitness classes and other fun activities. Get more information here: [https://www.nycgovparks.org/highlights/parks-at-home](https://www.nycgovparks.org/highlights/parks-at-home)

For all updates on park service changes and closures, please refer to the NYC Parks website: [https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus](https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus)

**New York City Phase 1:**
- construction for non-essential businesses;
- retail - curbside pickup and in-store pick up where curbside not available;
- agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting; and
- retail trade, and wholesale trade.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that **day camps that depend on city parks will be allowed to operate** this summer.

NYC public beaches for swimming opened July 1. Lifeguards will be on duty daily from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Swimming is unsafe and strictly prohibited at all other times. See: [Press Release](https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus)

- In addition, the city will expand the it cooling program installing air conditioners for low-income seniors, the number of outdoor cooling elements available for New Yorkers to enjoy during extreme heat. NYC Parks is adding brand new cooling elements within HVI 5/4 zones, and highlighting the existing 950 cooling elements citywide with a new [Cool It! NYC map](https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus). See more [Here](https://www.nycgovparks.org/about/health-and-safety-guide/coronavirus)

For **indoor religious and funeral services**, during Phase One reopening, congregant/attendee capacity was limited to 10 people. During Phases Two (starting Monday, June 22) and Three, occupancy is up but cannot exceed 25% of the maximum occupancy as set by certificates of occupancy and fire safety regulations.

During Phase Two, independent retail stores will once again be open to the public for browsing **while adhering to State guidelines**. Additionally, malls must remain closed to the public, but stores based in malls with their own street entrances can reopen; those without their own external entrances may conduct curbside delivery.
The city is launching a marketplace for reopening businesses where they can buy masks, face shields, gloves, cleaning and disinfecting products, physical barriers and portable furniture.

**Basic rules for all sectors:**

- **Social Distancing**
  - Require 6 feet of distance unless safety or core function of the work activity requires less
  - Reduce occupancy to under 50%, limit confined spaces to 1 person (elevators, behind cash registers)
  - Limit all in-person gatherings and meetings, and only hold them in large, well-ventilated areas with social distancing

- **PPE**
  - Provide employees with free face coverings or, if warranted, face shields or other proper protective equipment. Require face coverings if employees cannot keep 6 feet of distance due to safety or core work function
  - **Hygiene**
    - Ensure frequent cleaning and disinfecting of any shared surfaces
  - **Health Screenings**
    - Implement mandatory health screenings for employees, including questionnaires, temperature checks

- **Communication**
  - Create and place distance markers, post signage throughout the workplace reminding personnel to adhere to phase 1 guidance and rules
  - The Governor signed legislation authorizing Attorney General Tish James to enforce the price gouging statute to cover PPE. Read more [here](#).

- **Training and Implementation**
  - To help enforce the guidelines, DCWP, FDNY and DSNY will conduct random visits to reopening sites to ensure compliance. Summonses will be issued only in
egregious circumstances or repeat violations. Response to complaints will be coordinated by the Office of Special Enforcement with NYPD, Sheriff and other relevant agencies. People can call 311 to report a business that is violating guidelines.

- **Business Roll Out:**
  - The City will require Phase 1 businesses to post reopening safety plans in the workplace. The Department of Buildings, Department of Consumer and Worker Protection and Small Business Services will educate, conduct outreach and provide support to businesses.
  - The City is training small business advocates and compliance advisors. The City will publish plain language industry guides and launch a dedicated Business Restart Hotline. In addition, Sector Advisory Councils will be available to troubleshoot additional necessary guidance or rule changes to help businesses succeed.
  - The City announced the [Restaurant Revitalization Program](#), a $3 million project to assist restaurants with “wage replacement” to retain current employees (or rehire those laid off) due to COVID-19. The program will prioritize neighborhoods hit hardest, including Washington Heights, Inwood, Hamilton Heights, Central Harlem, Morningside Heights, East Harlem, the Lower East Side, and Chinatown. The first round of applications are due June 19. Learn more [here](#).
  - **Six major retailers are requiring customers to wear face coverings while shopping at their stores nationwide**, including: Costco, C-Town, Gristedes and D’Agostino, Stop & Shop, Tops and Whole Foods. (July 1)

- **NYC Resources for start-up:**
  - Guides for industry employers are provided [here](#).
• The **Department of Citywide Administrative Services** (DCAS) will provide 2 million free face coverings to 40 local chamber and business groups **through June 8**.

• **Business Reopening Information and Resources**: nyc.gov/business

• **Digital Resource Fairs** - Please visit [http://nycsmallbizcourses.eventbrite.com](http://nycsmallbizcourses.eventbrite.com) to sign up for this resource fair and to find all of our digital webinar offerings.

• **Face Covering Distribution**: For a list of distribution sites available, visit [https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings](https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings)

• **Financial Counseling for Businesses**: NYC.gov/talkmoney

• **311 Worker Protection Hotline** will launch on Monday, June 8, 2022. Worker rights and guidance can be found [here](https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings)

• **DOHMH COVID-19 Info**: Business & Facility Guidance


• To help restaurants rebound, the NYC Department of Transportation and Department of Consumer and Worker Protection will streamline the permitting process for outdoor sidewalk seating. Restaurants will be able to convert adjacent parking spots into more seating with self-certification -- no permit will be needed. The City will allow restaurants to create seating areas in Open Streets sites, and identify new Open Streets on commercial strips with a high volume of restaurants. **Interim Guidance For Outdoor And Take-Out/Delivery Food Services During The COVID-19 Public Health emergency**: [Guidance](https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings)

• **The Mayor extended the City’s overwhelmingly popular Open Restaurants program until the end of October**, giving nearly 9,000 participating restaurants two extra months to serve diners in safe, socially distant outdoor spaces. The Mayor also unveiled 26 more locations for the weekend expansion of outdoor dining options under an initiative that combines two popular programs, Open Streets and Open Restaurants. See: [Press Release](https://www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/article/free-face-coverings) (July 17)
o **Construction:**

o **The New York City Department of Buildings (DOB) released new COVID-19 safety guidelines** for property owners and contractors as construction sites get back to work as part of New York City’s Phase One of New York State’s reopening plan, on June 8, 2020. These new required safety measures for construction sites were developed with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and are being implemented to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus to workers and the public during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. [Read the guidelines.]

o The guidelines apply to all construction activity in New York City during the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, until the State rescinds or amends its Executive Order and related guidance. Stop Work Orders previously issued by the Department for noncompliance with the State’s non-essential construction ban will be lifted. The Department will not be lifting Stop Work Orders at sites that illegally continued work even after they were issued a Stop Work Order for violating the ban, and have outstanding civil penalties.

o Employers are also required to develop a site-specific health plan that is prominently visible on the worksite. They will also be required to submit and display an affirmation to the State that they have read and understood the additional reopening requirements as required in the NYS Interim Guidelines.

o DOB inspectors will be conducting a safety inspection sweep of every permitted construction site in New York City, and following up with additional periodic checks of active work sites. Members of the public can also call 311 to report a work site where proper COVID-19 safety measures are not being followed. During these sweeps, inspectors will be looking for the following:
  - Compliance with social distancing protocols. Six feet of distance should be observed between all personnel, unless safety or work functions require shorter distance.
  - Anyone on site, including workers, other construction professionals, and approved visitors, who are less than six feet apart must wear face coverings. Maintaining this practice at all times is highly encouraged.
- Readily available hygiene and hand washing stations.
- COVID-19 safety measures signage visible to workers, reminding everyone to adhere to all safety protocols while on site, including proper hand hygiene, physical distancing rules, appropriate use of personal protective equipment, and cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
- Tightly confined spaces (e.g., elevators, hoists) occupied by only one individual at a time, unless all occupants are wearing a face covering and the space is kept under 50% maximum capacity.
- For elevators and hoists, 50% capacity signage must be posted within the cab and at each landing.
- A site safety monitor must be designated. The role’s responsibilities include continuous compliance with all aspects of the site safety plan.
- Safety plan(s) are conspicuously posted on site and include a copy of the submitted State affirmation.
- Properly completed and updated cleaning and disinfection logs.
- A communication plan for employees, visitors, and clients is on site.
- Correctly completed and updated logs of every person who may have had close contact with others on site to ensure effective contact tracing.

**Health/Medical Coverage:**

- **The deadline for state health insurance special enrollment has been extended to August 15, 2020.** New Yorkers without health insurance can apply for coverage through the [NY State of Health Plan Marketplace](https://www.ny.gov)

- New York City hospitals are now eligible to resume elective surgeries and ambulatory care. (June 8)

- **NYC Care will expand to Queens and Manhattan, four months ahead of schedule.** This is a Citywide effort to guarantee health care for all New Yorkers. NYC Care currently serves the Bronx, Brooklyn and Staten Island by providing access to low-cost and no-cost primary care for those who are ineligible or can’t afford insurance, and helps fight healthcare disparities made clear by
COVID-19. It is expected to reach nearly 54,000 residents; 44,000 residents in Queens and 10,000 residents in Manhattan.

- **Mass Transit:**
  - **The myMTA app now features bus ridership information in real time.** To help avoid crowding on buses as New York City reopens, the MTA has added a feature to its myMTA app to provide the real-time number of riders on any given bus line.
  - The NYC Fair Fares program is now accepting applications. Eligible New Yorkers receive a 50% discount on subway and eligible bus fares. Click [here](#) to determine your eligibility and apply. Click [here](#) for more information on the Fair Fares program.
  - The MTA announced they have deployed PPE vending machines stocked with masks and hand sanitizer as a pilot program at 10 stations. Eight of the vending machine locations are in Manhattan:
    - 14 St-Union Square
    - 34 St-Herald Square (two machines)
    - 34 St-Penn Station
    - 34 St-Penn Station
    - 42 St-Port Authority Bus Terminal
    - 42 St-Times Square (two machines)
    - 59 St-Columbus Circle
    - 74 St-Roosevelt Av
  - Masks are mandatory when riding public transportation systems and New Yorkers should follow all guidelines and protocols when riding, including maintaining social distancing to the extent possible, using hand sanitizer and observing decal guidance.
  - The city’s subway and bus system has resumed service
  - The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) unveiled its **13-Point Action Plan for A Safe Return.** Subways and buses were moving 1.5 million customers in advance of the re-open. For more information on the MTA's 13-Point Action Plan, visit [here](#).
The 13-Point Action Plan includes:

- Increased Service
- Cleaning & Disinfecting
- Mandatory Face Coverings
- Enhanced Safety & Security
- Nation-Leading Employee Safety Initiatives
- Innovative Cleaning Solutions
- Hand Sanitizer
- Floor Markings, Directional Arrows and New Signage
- Staggered Business Hours
- 2 Million Mask Contribution from State & City
- Contactless Payments
- New Partnership & Technology to Make System Safer and data dashboard

The Governor has asked that commuters unsatisfied with bus or subway service during reopening call 511 with complaints.

Mayor de Blasio announced that approximately 800 NYPD school safety agency will be deployed throughout the transit system to distribute face masks and encourage social distancing. (June 8)

Bus Service:

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) announced it has launched a pilot program to mount dispensers of free surgical masks inside buses to further protect customers while on board. The MTA has already completed the installation of dispensers on 100 buses on six bus routes in three boroughs. Customers on the Bx12 SBS and Bx41 SBS routes in the Bronx, S53 Staten Island local route, and X63, X64 and X68 express routes in Queens can now easily access the free surgical masks from dispensers mounted at the rear doors of the SBS and local buses, and at the front door of express buses. The MTA plans to roll out the pilot across every borough on more than 20 routes and 400 buses by the end of August. All customers and MTA employees are required to wear a mask while riding public transit.
On Wednesday (8/5) the MTA will launch two new overnight express bus routes to other boroughs: M99 (Hell’s Kitchen-East New York via 14th St., 1-6 am) and Bx99 (West Village-Woodlawn, 1-6 am).

Bus are running on regular weekday/closed school service in Brooklyn, The Bronx, Queens, and Staten Island. Buses are operating and Manhattan Express bus service has also been restored.

With shield installation for the drivers, front-door boarding and fare collection on buses will resume in the near future, possibly in August. In the interim, back-door boarding continues.

The city will create new five busways — where most regular cars are banned, allowing for faster and more frequent bus service — starting with Main Street in Flushing, Queens this month. Between July and October, busways will be added on Fifth Ave. in Manhattan, Jamaica Ave. in Queens, Jay Street in Brooklyn and 181st Street in Manhattan.

There will also be four new bus lanes on E. 14th St. in Manhattan, 149th St. in the Bronx, Hylan Blvd. on Staten Island and Merrick Blvd. in Queens — for a total of 20 miles of busways and bus lanes serving 750,000 riders.

The Staten Island Ferry, which had its service reduced, will begin running every 20-minutes at rush hour (6:00 am-9:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.) and 30-minute service (5:30 a.m.-6:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m./Weekends 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.) Markers will be in place to demonstrate six feet of social distancing. Face coverings and hand sanitizer will be widely available and distributed.

Metro-North and Long Island Railroad: Both MTA commuter rails systems have expanded their limited-service schedules. Metro-North now runs additional city-bound trains in the morning and in the opposite direction in the evening and LIRR has increased capacity, and according to media reports will be at 90% service. Ticket counters remain closed. Passengers must use kiosks or the MTA app.

New Jersey Transit: Trains and buses are operating on full schedules. The concourse in New York’s Penn Station will be closed for cleaning every night between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., but customers can still enter via the main entrance.
on 7th Avenue and 32nd Street. Passengers with paper tickets will be asked to tear them to minimize hand-to-hand contact with staff.

- **Testing and Treatment updates in NYC and State:**
  - NYC and New York State have expanded coronavirus testing criteria to include all New Yorkers.
    - Any New Yorker can go to any of the State's 750+ testing sites and get a test at no cost.
  - The City will now have the capacity to test up to **50,000 New Yorkers per day**, building on the city's commitment to test, trace, and treat all positive cases of COVID-19. The City will also now activate the next stage of its hyper-local response in the Rockaways and Sunset Park. The first two-week pilot initiative, launched in the Tremont, Bronx neighborhood, tested over 7,400 New Yorkers. All 200 positive cases received immediate, on-site counseling, allowing them to immediately safely separate and receive assistance through supportive services, such as food and financial counseling (July 23)
  - The City will open four new testing sites with the urgent care partner Medrite. The following sites will launch Monday, July 27th, with operating hours between 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM.
    - **Manhattan**
    - 330 West 42nd Street
    - 919 2nd Avenue
    - 77 Dyckman Street
    - **Brooklyn**
    - 504 Myrtle Avenue

- **New City Testing Partnerships (July 13)**
  - **Ramon Velez Health Center** (Currently Open)
    - 754 E. 151st Street, Bronx
    - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
    - Appointment required
  - **Clay Avenue Health Center 1** (Currently Open)
    - 776 Clay Avenue, Bronx
- Monday - Friday 9:00AM-4:00 PM
- Appointment required

- **Casa Maria Health Center** (Currently Open)
  - 324 E. 149th Street, Bronx
  - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
  - Appointment required

- **Claremont Health Center** (Currently Open)
  - 262 E. 174th Street, Bronx
  - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
  - Appointment required

- **Thomas and Marie White Health Center** (Currently Open)
  - 116-30 Sutphin Boulevard, Queens
  - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
  - Appointment required

- **Hope Gardens** (Opens tomorrow, July 14th)
  - 120 Menahan Street, Brooklyn
  - Monday - Friday 10:00 AM-4:00 PM
  - Appointment required

- The City will also operate additional testing sites through Union Community Health Centers:
  - **Union Community Health Center**: (Currently Open)
    - 260 East 188th Street, Bronx
    - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
    - Rapid Care hours: Monday-Friday 3:00 PM -9:00 PM. Saturday-Sunday 10:00 AM-6:00 PM
    - Appointment required

- **Grand Concourse**
  - 2021 Grand Concourse, Bronx
  - Monday - Friday 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM
  - Appointment required
The following sites will open through a partnership with the Institute for Family Health:

- **Stevenson Family Health Center** (PCR Testing Only; Opens August 3rd)
  - 731 White Plains Road, Bronx

Governor Cuomo announced the state is opening 14 new temporary testing sites at churches located in communities particularly impacted by COVID-19, in partnership with Northwell Health and SOMOS Community Care. (June 8)

- Tracing will be included with coronavirus testing.
- The goal is to have 5,000-10,000 tracers.
- Individuals who test positive for coronavirus will receive a call from a tracer 24 - 36 hours after being tested. The Mayor urges everyone to answer the call.
- New York City will launch **mobile testing** to come out to the community.
  - An additional 10 trucks will be available in July providing 80 test per truck per day.

For more information on testing, visit here.

Upcoming Antibody testing:

- Antibody testing will be offered on an appointment-only basis from **Monday, June 29 to Friday, July 24**. Tests are free for all City residents over the age of 18, and available at the below sites **Monday- Friday** from 12:00 PM-8:00 PM or **Saturday through Sunday 8:00 AM-12:00 PM**. Appointments can be made on this site or by calling **1-888-279-0967**:

  **Brooklyn**
  Brooklyn P.S. 12  
  **430 Howard Avenue**

  **Queens**
  Queens High School of Teaching  
  **74-20 Commonwealth Blvd**

  **Manhattan**
  Gregorio Luperon High School for Science and Mathematics  
  **501 West 165th Street**
Bronx
James Monroe HS Campus Annex
1551 East 172nd Street

Staten Island
Former St. John Villa High School
57 Cleveland Place

- Free, walk-in antibody testing is now available at H+H Gotham Community Health Centers across the city. Additional information, including hours of operation, can be found here.

Brooklyn
Cumberland, 100 North Portland Avenue
Ida G. Israel, 2925 W 10th Street
Jonathan Williams Houses, 333 Roebling Street
East New York, 2094 Pitkin Avenue

Queens
Woodside, 50-53 Newtown Road

Manhattan
Gouverneur, 227 Madison Street
Dyckman, 175 Nagle Avenue
Sydenham, 264 W 118 Street

Bronx
Belvis, 545 East 142nd Street
Morrisania, 1225 Gerard Avenue

Staten Island
165 Vanderbilt Avenue

- Tracing and Isolating in NYC:
- Information on the Test & Trace Corps, including program metrics, is available here.
  - New Yorkers with positive results are now receiving calls. Anyone safely separated at home will be offered meal delivery, medication and essential services through a Resource Navigator. Anyone unable to safely isolate at home will be offered a free hotel room. Contact mapping, case monitoring and outreach to contacts all began yesterday.
If you test positive, you will be called within 24 hours by a Tracer. The call will last 30-45 minutes and you will be asked about your symptoms, your recent close contacts and how to reach them, and your tracer will give you instructions on how to safely separate for up to 14 days.

If you can safely separate at home, you’ll get a same-day call from a Resource Navigator offering services including meals and medication. If you cannot safely isolate at home, you’ll receive a same-day call providing you with a free hotel room, and instructions on how to separate there.

If you are named as a contact, a tracer will call you to ask about your symptoms, offer instructions on how and where to get tested immediately, and give instructions about how to safely separate for 14 days, either at home or at a free hotel. You will then receive daily follow-up to ensure you get tested.

**Housing**

Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Thursday, August 6 extended New York state's eviction moratorium another 30 days amid the coronavirus pandemic. The executive order signed by Cuomo, which is being reviewed by the Office of Court Administration, extends the ban on evictions until Sept. 4.

Mayor de Blasio launched the city’s first-ever online portal, created through the Mayor’s Office to Protect Tenants (MOPT), the Mayor’s Public Engagement Unit (PEU), and the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT), to help renters navigate free public and private resources to avoid eviction and stabilize their housing situations. The free portal is accessible to all residential tenants.

- Tenants will respond to a series of questions about their unique circumstances and be directed to the most relevant resources, such as help navigating an illegal lockout or eviction. The portal also has up-to-date information on the general status of evictions in New York City Housing Court. Tenants who do not have access to the internet can call 311 and ask for the “Tenant Helpline,” which was launched in partnership with 311 and HRA’s Office of Civil Justice (OCJ) in April of this year, where they will be
connected to a PEU Tenant Support Specialist to receive free, individualized assistance. See: Press Release (August 10)

- The following is the Office of Rent Administration’s Borough and District Rent Offices new procedural guidance for office visits:
  - Service will be provided to visitors to the office **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**. If you cannot come alone, please minimize the number of guests accompanying you.
  - Appointments must be scheduled at least one day in advance, and no more than two weeks in advance.
  - To schedule an appointment or to receive assistance over the phone, please contact:
    - Lower Manhattan: 212-480-6238
    - Upper Manhattan: 212-961-8930
    - Westchester: 914-948-4434
    - Queens: 718-482-4041
    - Brooklyn: 718-722-4778
    - Bronx: 718-430-0880
  
  - All visitors will be required to wear face masks. Information will be provided at our service window. Visitors with an illness or fever are being directed to seek service over the phone or by email.
  - Visitors are required to bring: proof of identity and proof of tenancy or ownership, any orders, notices or documents they want to review and discuss.
  - Maximum length of time for an appointment is 30 minutes. Visitors who arrive after their 30-minute allotted time frame will need to reschedule. Please arrive early, as extra time will be needed to clear building security and elevator passenger limits.
    - For details on the new Procedures for Office Visits and related guidance please see: Notice
  
- Renters who have been impacted by the coronavirus pandemic can apply for rental assistance from $100 million in federal funds, set aside by the state, in the form of a one-time rental subsidy paid directly to landlords, the Times Union reports. Tenants are not required to repay this assistance. The program is
administered by New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) and access to program applications will be available [here](#), starting July 16. HCR will prioritize households with greatest economic and social need, accounting for income, rent burden, percent of income lost and risk of homelessness. See: Press Release

- **The deadline to apply for the COVID Rent Relief Program has been extended to August 6th.** The following is a list of resources available to you for help with the application process:

  - The website – [www.hcr.ny.gov/RRP](http://www.hcr.ny.gov/RRP) – provides the application, FAQs and other documents in six different languages to ensure New Yorkers with limited English proficiency have proper access to the application and program tools.

  - HCR has created a dedicated call center to provide residents, including those with limited English proficiency, with help [Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m.](#) until 7 p.m. Call the COVID Rent Relief Program Call Center at 1-833-499-0318 or email at covidrentrelief@hcr.ny.gov

  - There is also a list of community-based organizations in each region of the State who are available to assist non-English-speaking residents with their application. The New York State [Office for New Americans](#) can also help.

  - Residents may also authorize a caseworker, attorney or other personal representative to apply for the COVID Rent Relief Program on their behalf. The Authorized Representative Release Form is available and can be downloaded from the Rent Relief Program website [https://hcr.ny.gov/RRP#application](https://hcr.ny.gov/RRP#application)
The Mayor along with the Racial Inclusion & Equity Taskforce announced a new program to increase housing security to tenants across the City who may be facing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting immediately, the Citywide Landlord-Tenant Mediation Project will serve hundreds of New Yorkers each month by addressing rent-related issues in a mediation setting, outside of the housing court system, with a focus on hardest hit communities.

- Through this project, non-profit Community Dispute Resolution Centers (CDRCs) will assist tenants and small landlords in finding solutions to rental issues due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal is to resolve cases before they reach litigation and avoid the long-term effects of an eviction proceeding which can lead to displacement for vulnerable tenants and limit future housing options. The Mediation Project will handle cases in a setting where both parties feel safe, and priority will be given to tenants and small landlords who do not have legal representation. See: Press Release (July 21)

Education/Child Care:

- **DOE Back to School Guidance and Information Sessions.** Recently, the DOE issued plans for a blended learning model. Blended learning means students will be taught on-site in school for part of the week, and will attend school remotely on the other days of the week. Any family can also choose all-remote learning, for any reason. **The DOE will be hosting virtual citywide Information sessions for students and families from 6:30-8:00 PM on the following dates:**
  - Wednesday, August 12, 2020
  - Thursday, August 27, 2020
  - For more information on back to school guidance and to register for the information sessions, please click here!

- **The Mayor and Schools Chancellor Richard A. Carranza announced health and safety protocols,** including guidance for testing and tracing, for
schools for the start of the 2020-21 school year. These plans were submitted to the state for review to meet the Governor’s deadline. The protocols will apply to all school communities and will help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- **In preparation for the start of school, the DOE is purchasing large orders of hygiene supplies on behalf of schools.** These supplies include, but are not limited, to, facial coverings for students, teachers, and staff; disinfectant; hand sanitizer; and electrostatic sprayers. School leadership and facilities staff in every school are reviewing school space and making necessary repairs and adjustments to ensure safe conditions for in-person student learning this fall.

- **All staff members will be asked to take a COVID-19 test in the days before the first day of school.** School staff will have priority access for free testing at 34 city-run testing locations, with tests provided with expedited results. This testing is also available for families citywide.

- **When school buildings reopen, all schools will be required to institute precautions to prevent, identify, and address the spread of COVID-19.** Daily precautions include:
  - An isolation room for students with symptoms with a dedicated staff member or health professional,
  - Physical distancing and required facial coverings,
  - Cleaning throughout the day and nightly disinfecting, and
  - Clear communication with families and school community.

- **If a student or teacher is feeling sick, they are required to stay home and, if their symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, are asked to get tested.** If a student begins experiencing symptoms in school, they will be isolated and monitored by a dedicated staff member until they are picked up by their parents or guardians. Staff members who
become symptomatic at school are asked to immediately leave the building.

- Whether symptoms begin at home or in school, there will be a clear flow of information to facilitate fast action and prevent spread. A positive case can be reported to a school by a staff member, a parent, or a student. A positive confirmed case will trigger an investigation by the NYC Test + Trace Corps and DOHMH to determine close contacts within the school. Schools will communicate to all families and students within school any time a case is laboratory confirmed.

- The DOE is working in concert with DOHMH and the NYC Test + Trace Corps to identify, isolate, and prevent spread of COVID-19. In the event that there is a laboratory-confirmed case in a school, all students and teachers in that class are assumed close contacts and will be instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days since their last exposure to that case. Additionally, DOHMH and NYC Test + Trace Corps will begin an investigation into the risk of exposure to the school community and work with the DOE to issue clear guidance and decisions for next steps based on the outcome.

  - For the potential investigative conclusions outlined below, all decisions to quarantine classrooms or close schools will depend on the facts of each investigation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conclusion of Investigation</th>
<th>During Investigation</th>
<th>Post Investigation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 confirmed case</td>
<td>Close Classroom, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>Classroom remains closed for 14 days; students and staff in close contact with positive case self-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Description</td>
<td>Quarantine Plan</td>
<td>Isolation Plan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 2 cases linked together in school, <strong>same</strong> classroom</td>
<td>Close Classroom, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>Classroom remains closed for 14 days; students and staff in close contact with positive cases self-quarantine for 14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 2 cases linked together in school, <strong>different</strong> classrooms</td>
<td>Close school building, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>Classrooms of each case remain closed and quarantined, additional school members are quarantined based on where the exposure was in the school (e.g., the locker room)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 2 cases linked together by circumstances outside of school (i.e., acquired infection by different setting and source)</td>
<td>Close school building, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>School opens post investigation, classrooms remain closed for 14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At least 2 cases not linked but exposure confirmed for each outside of school setting</td>
<td>Close school building, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>School opens post investigation, classrooms remain closed for 14 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Link unable to be determined</td>
<td>Close school building, transition to remote learning</td>
<td>Close school for 14 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Whenever a student is isolating or quarantining at **home**, the expectation is that they continue engaging with learning
remotely if they are feeling well enough. If a school is closed, the school will communicate by 6 P.M. on the night before about the status of opening the next morning, based on the status of the investigation. A school building will not reopen without confirmation from public health experts that it is safe.

- The City will continue to closely monitor health conditions, and if community transmission begins to rise across the boroughs, a decision may be made to close all schools and switch to full-time remote learning. New coronavirus cases will have to remain under 3% for New York City schools to physically open in September — and stay under that threshold for the school system to continue operating throughout the year, Mayor de Blasio said Friday. The guideline is more strict than the 5% threshold recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Gov. Cuomo as necessary for reopening schools, a move the Mayor attributed in part to how densely packed the city is and the trauma its residents have felt. See: Press Release

- New York City's Board of Health approved a plan to reopen 3,000 child care centers citywide starting July 13. See: Press Release

- The Mayor with the education Chancellor announced preliminary reopening plans for schools for fall 2020. The plans provide for staggered schedules, a mix of in-person and remote learning. Families will also have the option to do online learning full time if they don’t feel safe returning to school in person. The DOE will host a series of Family & Student Information Sessions to answer any questions or concerns that families may have. The first session will be held on July 16, and additional sessions will be announced in the coming weeks. Schedules will be distributed in August. For more information, see: Press Release.

- The NYC Department of Education launched a process allowing parents to opt out of in-person instruction this fall in favor of remote learning. Families can opt-out at this website or by calling 311. Parents’ decisions could have an enormous effect on schools, which will allow most students to return to school buildings for one to three days each week.
Governor Cuomo announced initial plans and data-driven guidance that will determine when k-12 secular and non-secular schools can reopen in the fall, and when schools might close again if infections surge. School districts must submit their reopening plans to the state by the end of the month, and the state will make its final decisions during the first week of August. Schools in a region can reopen if that region is in Phase IV of reopening and if its daily infection rate remains below 5 percent or lower using a 14-day average. New York State, the Reimagine Education Advisory Council and the Department of Health released finalized guidance and guiding principles for reopening schools, which are available [here](#). The DOH and Governor's Reimagine Council are working closely with the Department of Education as it releases education guidance. Schools will have to factor in social distancing, screening of anyone entering and demonstrate tracing capabilities, among other conditions in order to reopen. Face coverings will also be required anytime social distancing is not permitted and strongly encouraged all other times, except during meals and short breaks. In each of the 10 state’s regions, if the infection rate exceeds 9% on a seven-day average, then schools would have to close for in-person classes.

**Libraries:**
- The city’s library systems will reopen a limited number of branches on July 13 for “grab and go” service, where patrons can pick up books they order in advance. NYPL, Brooklyn, and Queens library systems are looking to reopen physical locations in July on a limited basis. Working with partners in government and safety experts, and putting the health and safety of patrons and staff first. The New York Public Library is planning to:
  - To start, the first two branches will be open Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 11 am – 6 pm; Wednesday from 12 – 7 pm; and Friday and Saturday: 11 am – 5 pm.
  - The Epiphany Library (228 E 23rd St.),
  - George Bruce Library (518 W 125th St.), and
  - Stavros Niarchos Foundation Libraries (the old Mid-Manhattan Library, 455 Fifth Ave. at 40th St., M-F 10 am – 6 pm, Sat. 11 am – 6 pm).
Patrons may start placing holds via the online catalog starting Monday, July 6 in advance of the reopening, or via phone starting July 13; upon arrival, they will be able to access a small area of each branch to pick up and return reserved materials while wearing masks and observing proper social distancing. (Research libraries, including the Fifth Avenue flagship, will remain closed; but researchers will soon be able to request scans of materials.)

o Queens Public Library (QPL)

- Queens Public Library is beginning to open with limited “to-go” service and book returns six days a week, which started on Monday, July 13th, 2020. Individuals can request materials to pick up online, through the QPL app, or by phone. For more information including related to the hours and locations of the grab-and-go sites, click [here](#).

o Brooklyn Public Library (BPL)

- Lobby Service is now open at seven Brooklyn Public Library locations. Through Lobby Service, patrons can pick up holds in one of those seven branch lobbies and return books to bins in the lobbies. For more information and to find out the hours and locations of the grab-and-go sites, click [here](#).
- Learn about grab-and-go branches in The Bronx and Staten Island at the NYPL’s Coronavirus page. (The Queens and Brooklyn libraries are also starting grab-and-go services at limited branches on July 13.)
- The staff and public will be required to wear face coverings, and maintain appropriate physical distance; the libraries will also employ special cleaning protocols to lower the risk of COVID-19
- After an evaluation, additional branches will be added, and when safe, the system will open more branches for increased on-site use (computer use and browsing, for example)
• At research centers (where most materials cannot be checked out), the system will focus on expanded and enhanced digital delivery of on-site materials until they can welcome the public into the physical venue space.

• Continue to check for updates on website.

• **Volunteer Opportunities:**
  • The City’s Commission on Gender Equity has shared a short survey for New York City residents ages 18 and older to help inform an equitable recovery from COVID-19 in NYC.
  • **Blood Donation**
    • *New York Blood Center Issued Urgent Call For Healthy Donors As Blood Supply Drops To Dangerously Low Levels:* [Call for Donation](https://nybloodcenter.org/)
    • New York State is working with blood banks to ensure safe social distancing protocols are being followed. Learn how and where you can donate at [ny.gov/donateblood](https://ny.gov/donateblood).
    • New Yorkers who have recovered from COVID-19 and had a positive test BEFORE March 7 should visit [www.mountsinai.org](http://www.mountsinai.org/) to help save another New Yorker by donating plasma.
    • The New York Blood Center is accepting donors by appointment. Use their website's location-search-and-scheduling tool on website: [https://nybloodcenter.org/](https://nybloodcenter.org/).
  • **New York Cares** is seeking volunteers in many capacities, on-the-ground service, or virtual opportunities. Please see more than 250 projects currently in need of volunteer support.
  • The nonprofit West Side Federation for Senior & Supportive Housing has launched a drive for everything from volunteer support, to potential vendor connections, to donated foodstuffs, activity books, and technology. [Click here](https://www.westsidesf.org/) to learn more and lend a hand.
  • The Hunter College NYC Food Policy Center is recruiting volunteer callers to help update their 59 Coronavirus NYC Neighborhood Food Resource Guides. These guides are essential to helping keep communities informed on everything from
soup kitchens to farmers markets to available resources for families depending on the SNAP and WIC programs. If you are interested in volunteering, please email info@nycfoodpolicy.org with the subject line: “Volunteer for Food Resource Guides.”

- Sign up as a volunteer for the Friendly Visiting Program at 212-244-6469. Please click here and complete the DFTA Volunteer Interest Form
- In It Together NYC is a city-wide volunteer initiative that connects healthy, eligible New Yorkers who seek to assist food pantries at risk of closing.
- iMentor, a nonprofit matching high school student to college-educated mentors, is seeking new mentors to work with students starting this fall (many of whom will need all the help they can get to recover academically from this pause). Interested applicants can learn more and apply here, or email sjoseph@imentor.org with questions.
- SAGE has a volunteer program that connects volunteers with LGBTQ+ seniors to help combat social isolation.

**Recreation in NYC:**

- The Mayor announced that 8 public pools are open starting July 23 with additional pools opening in the future. The pools open: Mullaly in The Bronx; Liberty and Fisher in Queens; Sunset and Kosciusko in Brooklyn; Wagner in Manhattan; and Tottenville and Lyons on Staten Island.
- The Mayor indicated that playgrounds have opened in phase II.
- To keep kids cool this summer, The City is expanding it's Cool It! program by restaurants activating 250 new cooling elements and proactively adding spray caps to 320 fire hydrants. In addition, the City is installing air conditioners for low-income seniors, with over 18,000 units already installed. To see if you’re eligible to receive a free air conditioner, click here.
- Mayor de Blasio announced that select Open Streets will become “Cool Streets,” - in neighborhoods vulnerable to heat-related health risks-- with spray caps on fire hydrants, water fountains, and trees for shade cover. Find your nearest sprinkler hydrant, fountain, or tree-friendly street here; Manhattan will have four Cool Streets:
- East 101st Street, from Park to Third Ave.
- West 117th Street, from Morningside to Fifth Ave.
- West 138th Street, from Lenox Ave. to Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Boulevard
- Edgecombe Avenue, from St. Nicholas Place to West 145th St.

- **NYC cancelled large street festivals, fairs and parades at least through September prioritizing city space for public use, social distancing and outdoor dining.**
- The mayor announced an expansion of the outdoor dining program: [Press Release](#) and announced that outdoor dining on city streets will be back next summer, even if the coronavirus is under control. The Open Restaurants program will be back on June 1, 2021, or maybe even sooner if the weather cooperates. The program will run this year through at least Halloween, and the mayor claimed it has saved 80,000 jobs by allowing restaurants that might have been closed during the pandemic to keep serving diners outdoors.
- **Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that day camps that depend on city parks will be allowed to operate** this summer.
- The Mayor announced that public beaches for swimming will open July 1. Lifeguards will be on duty daily from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Swimming is unsafe and strictly prohibited at all other times. See: [Press Release](#)
- **The High Line in New York City will reopen July 16th.** The elevated park will open with reduced capacity and free time-entry reservations.
- The city’s zoos and aquariums plan to open on July 24 at limited capacity, assuming New York City is in phase four by then. Proper safety protocols will be implemented. Reopening guidelines and the list of facilities set to open can be found [here](#).
- The Mayor added another 23 miles to New York City’s nation-leading Open Streets program, bringing the citywide total to 67 miles – two-thirds of the way to the 100-mile goal laid out in late April. The new Open Streets, which are located primarily in neighborhoods hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis, include nine miles of temporary protected bike lanes. The Open Streets hours will be from 8am - 8pm. You can find the list of Open Streets [here](#).
The nine new miles of bike corridors, like the first nine miles of temporary lanes announced in May, will be phased in throughout the summer using markings, barrels, signage, and other barriers, to implement both permanent and temporary projects along with critical connectors from already-established protected lanes. During the rollout of these bike lanes, DOT will also be implementing new Green Wave signal timing in various corridors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protected Bike Lanes</th>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Boro Street</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Mileage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Queens/Central Park</td>
<td>QN Broadway/Northern Blvd</td>
<td>34th Ave Queensboro Plaza</td>
<td>3.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>MN 61/62 Sts Queensboro Br</td>
<td></td>
<td>5th Ave</td>
<td>1.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lower MN/SOHO</td>
<td>MN Center/Lafayette</td>
<td>Brooklyn Br Spring St</td>
<td>1.41</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midtown Core</td>
<td>MN 6th/7th Ave</td>
<td>59th St 34th St/47th St</td>
<td>1.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Park/Midtown</td>
<td>MN 5th Ave</td>
<td>120th St 110th St</td>
<td>1.00</td>
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<tr>
<th>Local Partner Management</th>
<th>Boro Street</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th>Mileage</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>QN Reads Ln Empire</td>
<td>Jarvis Ave</td>
<td>0.52</td>
<td>8a-8p Sat Only</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Ave</th>
<th>Ave</th>
<th>Length</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JCCRP</td>
<td>QN</td>
<td>Beach 12th</td>
<td>Central Ave</td>
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<td>8a-8p Sat Only</td>
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<tr>
<td>Times Square Alliance</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>46th Street</td>
<td>8th Ave</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>4p-8p all days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Greenway Initiative</td>
<td>BK</td>
<td>West St</td>
<td>Quay St</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>8a-8p weekend only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Bk Partnership</td>
<td>BK</td>
<td>Willoughby St</td>
<td>Lawrence St</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>10a-6p all days, extension of existing open street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uptown Grand Central</td>
<td>MN</td>
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<td>Park Ave</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>12p-8p all days</td>
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<td>King St</td>
<td>Hudson St</td>
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<td>11a-3p all days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hudson Sq BID</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Little 6th Ave</td>
<td>Spring St</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>11a-3p all days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hudson Sq BID</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Dominick St</td>
<td>Varick St</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>11a-3p all days</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Astoria LDC</td>
<td>QN</td>
<td>Newtown Ave</td>
<td>30th Ave</td>
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<td>10a-8p Fri, Sat, Sun Only</td>
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<td>Red Hook Business Alliance</td>
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<td>Conover St</td>
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<tr>
<td>Connectemos</td>
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<td>29th St</td>
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<td>75th St</td>
<td>80th St</td>
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<tr>
<td>LES Enfants de Boheme</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>Jefferson St</td>
<td>E Broadway</td>
<td>Madison St</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcus Meets Malcolm</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>120th St</td>
<td>Lenox Ave</td>
<td>Mt Morris Park W</td>
<td>0.08</td>
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<th>Local Precinct</th>
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<td>Neighborhood</td>
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<td>Brownsville</td>
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<td>Sheepshead Bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
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<td>Midwood</td>
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<td>Crown Heights</td>
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<td>East New York</td>
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**Summer Programs & Events**

- **Growing Up NYC** has compiled a list of free or low-cost summer programs for students. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, some summer programs will be held virtually. Individuals can find information regarding virtual programs through Growing Up NYC’s website.
- **Generation NYC** has created a fun at home guide for teens and young adults. Activities include art workshops, virtual science fairs, and more.
- Registration is now open for the Harlem Summer Arts Experience virtual summer camp for kids ages 5-18. For a complete list of classes, and to register, click here.

- New York Public Library Summer Reading Program
  The New York Public Library has launched its Summer Reading Program. For more information and to see all the Summer Reading Program has to offer, click here.

- Queens Public Library Summer Reading Program
  Queens Public Library is offering a virtual Summer Reading Program. Children can earn badges, play games, and track their progress through the Queens Public Library website.

- Brooklyn Public Library Summer Reading Program
  Brooklyn Public Library is once again offering a summer reading program. Families can access virtual programming, including story times, games, arts and crafts, and performances. For more information on their summer reading program, click here.

- Although El Museo del Barrio is temporarily closed, you are invited to explore their website to learn about Latino art and culture through online resources. Click here to access upcoming exhibitions and past exhibitions offered by El Museo del Barrio.

- The Jewish Museum is offering mobile tours, programs, and an online collection spanning 4,000 years of history.

- The Bryant Park Yoga Series goes virtual every Tuesday and Wednesday on Instagram, where you can practice with your favorite yoga instructors. Click here to join the Instagram class at or just before 10:00 AM, and tap or click the profile picture (circle on top left corner) to view the live video. You can watch live videos on the Instagram app or on Instagram.com.

- The Bronx Council on the Arts is presenting their virtual exhibit, entitled Confidence in the Future. This exhibit highlights paintings, sculptures, and installations by eight young artists of color.

- The SOOP (Seat-Of-Our-Pants) Theatre Company has re-imagined its summer program. All classes will be online and hosted via zoom. Students will
sing, dance, and imagine costumes and sets, and use some artistic skills to develop a backdrop for their character straight from their home using materials they already have. Each age level will record their singing (with a grownup for help) on a very easy to navigate website. All acting and scene work will be recorded during class time and put together for a final presentation you can keep for years to come. What a great time to use the imagination and create something fun! Click here to see the summer workshops, and to register.

- **NYC & Co.** offers an opportunity to explore the best of the City virtually, by rounding up online resources from museums, galleries, comedy clubs, theaters, and other venues in one, easy-to-click location. Click here for hundreds of ways to connect with your favorite NYC attractions from across the five boroughs-or discover new ones-from home.

- **ADA 30**
  - **The New York City Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD)** is facilitating a month of fully online programming in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the passage and signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Events include a disability history exhibit, digital accessibility workshops, and panels on a variety of topics such as advocacy, tourism, employment, and transportation. On July 26th, the anniversary of the signing, MOPD and members of the disability community are hosting Disability Unite, a four-hour live-streamed event full of music, dance, discussion, live gaming, and more. A full calendar of City-run and community events can be found at NYC.gov/ADA30.
    - Calendar of Events: the calendar

- New York State offers many opportunities for travelers with accessibility needs. Hundreds of attractions across the state offer accessibility features, with some even providing specialty programming like sensory-friendly museum days and adaptive skiing and snowboarding. A new I Love NY hub has all the details.

**STATEWIDE INFORMATION**

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and regional airports will now require out-of-state visitors or returning New Yorkers at airports to provide contact information (via forms distributed by airlines) upon arrival at airports as part of a new effort to enforce the state’s 14-day quarantine of people coming from states with high levels of infections. A forthcoming executive order will outline a hearing process that would determine whether people who refuse to provide such information could be placed into a mandatory quarantine – in addition to facing a $2,000 fine. See: Press Release

- As part of the enforcement operation, enforcement teams will be stationed at airports statewide to meet arriving aircrafts at gates and greet disembarking passengers to request proof of completion of the State Department of Health traveler form, which is being distributed to passengers by airlines prior to, and upon boarding or disembarking flights to New York State. A new electronic version of the DOH traveler form is now also available, making it easier and more efficient for travelers to complete the form.

- State DOH has also issued an emergency health order mandating that all out-of-state travelers from designated states complete the DOH traveler form upon entering New York. Travelers who leave the airport without completing the form will be subject to a $2,000 fine and may be brought to a hearing and ordered to complete mandatory quarantine. Airlines have all pledged to help make passengers aware of the new requirement using pre-flight emails, pre-flight announcements, in-flight announcements and other methods. Additionally, travelers coming to New York from designated states through other means of transport, including trains and cars, must fill out the DOHtraveler form online.

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced on Wednesday August 5 that the City will establish COVID-19 traveler registration checkpoints at key entry points into New York City to ensure compliance with New York State quarantine requirements and further the containment of COVID-19. The new checkpoints at bridges and tunnels will stop cars and seek to enforce quarantine orders imposed by New York State, which require people coming from 34 states and Puerto Rico to self-isolate for up to 14 days to
avoid spreading Covid-19. The city Sheriff’s Office, in association with other law enforcement agencies, will oversee the checkpoints and stop a random sampling of cars entering the city, reminding drivers of the quarantine order and requiring them to complete a registration form if they’re coming from a high-risk state. People violating the quarantine — which applies to both residents of the high-risk states and New Yorkers returning from visits — can be subject to fines up to $10,000. Individuals who refuse to fill out the New York State Department of Health travel form are subject to a $2,000 fine. See: Press Release

- Governor Cuomo along with Govs. Phil Murphy of New Jersey and Ned Lamont of Connecticut announced that all travelers from states that meet specific health metrics must immediately enter a 14-day quarantine upon arrival in any of the three states. In NYS, the order will take the form of a travel advisory and took effect on June 25. It will apply to states with infection rates that exceed 10 people per 100,000 on a seven-day rolling average, or if 10 percent of the total population tests positive on a seven-day rolling average.
  - Travelers from Hawaii, South Dakota and the U.S. Virgin Islands were added to the state quarantine list, Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced Tuesday. The overall number of states and U.S. territories subject to the quarantine has gone down with the removal of Rhode Island, Ohio, New Mexico and Alaska from what is now a 31-state and two-territory list. Washington state was also removed from the quarantine list. (August 11)
  - Travelers from 34 states will need to self-quarantine for two weeks upon arriving in New York, New Jersey or Connecticut after Rhode Island was added to the tri-state list on Tuesday and Delaware was removed by the Governor. Washington, D.C., was also removed from the quarantine advisory on Tuesday after being added last week. Puerto Rico was added last week and remains subject to the order. The list of affected states and jurisdictions is updated weekly. (Aug. 4) See: Press Release

- Governor Cuomo on Tuesday, July 28 added Illinois, Kentucky, Minnesota were to the ever-growing list as Covid-19 infection rates continue
to spike in much of the country, bringing the total number of affected states to 34. Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico were also included.

- Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Tuesday, July 21 added 10 states and removed one from a list that requires travelers from those states to quarantine for 14 days after arriving in New York. The 10 states added to the list are Alaska, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Virginia and Washington. The list now includes 31 states, after Minnesota was removed: Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Missouri, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. See Press Release (July 21)

- On Wednesday, June 25, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo added Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Washington, Utah and Texas, to the quarantine list. Anyone found out of compliance will be subject to a judicial order and a mandatory quarantine, Cuomo said. Fines can range from $2,000 to $10,000 depending on whether it is the first offense and if harm is caused. The advisory not only applies to out-of-state residents. Any New Yorker who leaves to visit those states would be subject to quarantine upon their return. The tri-state initiative will use uniform parameters and messaging on highways, airports, websites and social media across the three states. The three states will also ask hotels to communicate the 14-day quarantine to guests who have traveled from one of the impacted states. See: Press Release (June 25)

- Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced that eight additional states meet the metrics to qualify for the travel advisory requiring individuals who have traveled to New York from those states, all of which have significant community spread, to quarantine for 14 days. The newly-added states are: California, Georgia, Iowa, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada and Tennessee. The quarantine applies to any person arriving from a state with a positive test rate
higher than 10 per 100,000 residents over a 7-day rolling average or a state with a 10% or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average. (June 30)

- New York State added three additional states to the travel advisory: **Delaware, Kansas and Oklahoma** (July 7) See: [Press Release](#)

- On Tuesday, New York, New Jersey and Connecticut have added another four states to the list of places from which incoming visitors must quarantine for two weeks when they arrive in the tri-state region. The newly-added states are Minnesota, New Mexico, Ohio and Wisconsin. Delaware has been removed. See: [Press Release](#) (July 14)

  - **Governor Cuomo** announced that the metrics of success in the state's fight against COVID-19 will change. Now, state officials will report on the **percentage of people who test positive** for the coronavirus.
    - Currently, about **1%** of people are testing positive for the coronavirus across the state.
    - You can view the new state dashboard [here](#).

  - **State Metrics for Reopening by the region**: [Guide for Reopening New York](#) and [NYForwardGuide](#)

  - **NYS Reopening Tracker - Regions and Counties**: [Tracker Spreadsheet](#)

  - **New State early warning dashboard** that aggregates the state's expansive data collection efforts for New Yorkers, government officials and experts to monitor and review how the virus is being contained on an ongoing basis has been posted. It tracks new infections and their severity, hospital capacity by region, and other metrics. The early warning system dashboard was developed in consultation with internationally-known experts who have been advising New York State. The early warning dashboard can be found [here](#).

  - The State has released a **New York Forward Business Reopening Web Tool**, which helps small businesses determine if they have met the criteria for reopening.

  - Employers must read their relevant industry guidance, **complete this affirmation form** to indicate compliance with guidelines, and **develop a safety plan** to be posted where employees can see it at the place of business.
Chief Judge Janet DiFiore Delivers OPENING Message on COVID-19 and the New York State Courts: Opening Message and for a transcript of the Chief Judge’s message, please follow this link: www.nycourts.gov

Phase four opening will not include the opening of shopping malls, movie theaters, water parks, gyms or casinos.

The governor announced that air conditioning filters with a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) rating capable of filtering COVID-19 particles or similar air exchange measures will be mandatory for large mall reopening. A COVID-19 particle is approximately 0.125 microns in diameter. Filters with a high MERV, such as High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters, have been shown to help reduce the presence of COVID-19 in air filtration systems. (June 29)

- Regions in New York in phase four of reopening: Central New York, the Finger Lakes, the Mohawk Valley, the North Country, Western New York, Capital District, the Southern Tier, Mid-Hudson, Long Island and New York City (with additional restrictions)

- Phase 4 Guidance: Here (Higher education, Professional sports without fans, Arts and entertainment—low risk, Film and TV production)
  - Will Permit Social Gatherings of 50 People and Indoor Religious Gatherings at 33 Percent Capacity
  - The Governor approved the reopening of indoor shopping malls outside New York City starting Friday, July 10 provided the establishments have installed new air filters that remove coronavirus particles from the air.
  - New York City reached phase 4 of reopening with some modifications to further restrict risk for community spread. Malls and museums will not reopen out of abundance of caution. No additional indoor activity will open due to concerns about spread of the virus. See: AP News

- New York State Forward guidance for phase three can be found here

- Phase 3 Guidance: NYS Food Service Guidance Phase 3

- Phase 3 Guidance: Personal Care NYS Personal Care/Salons Guidance Phase 3

- Gatherings of 25 people or less will be permitted in phase 3 reopening: Gatherings
• New York State Forward guidance for phase two reopening can be found here

• Health care/Nursing Homes

• The New York State Department of Financial Services has issued new guidance to New York health insurers to ensure that patients are not charged personal protective equipment fees by healthcare providers that participate in their insurer's network. DFS has received consumer complaints about healthcare providers, particularly dental providers, improperly charging their patients fees for PPE or other charges related to increased costs due to COVID-19, which fees are being passed to their insurers and go beyond the insured patient's applicable cost-sharing. See: Press Release and Circular Letter to Insurance Industry (August 5)
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  o Health Coverage: The state is extending the special open enrollment period in the New York State of Health Plan Marketplace for an additional 30 days through August 15, 2020. See: nystateofhealth.ny.gov.
  o The state will begin allowing hospital visitations, but the visitors must wear masks, limit their time in the hospital and be subject to having their temperature taken as they enter. Visitations will be at the discretion of the hospital. Visitations to nursing homes remain suspended.
  o State Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker announced nursing homes and long term care facilities in New York will be allowed to resume limited visitations for facilities that have been
without COVID-19 for at least 28 days, a threshold set by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Residents in these facilities will be allowed two visitors at a time, and the visitors must undergo temperature checks, wear face coverings and socially distance during the visit. At least one of the two visitors must be at least 18 years of age or older. For each facility, only 10 percent of the residents can be allowed visitors at any time; for example, in a 100-bed facility no more than 10 residents can have visitors per day in order to maintain proper social distancing and ensure safe compliance. Nursing Homes accepting visitors will be required to send their visitation plan to NYSDOH and affirmatively attest that they are following the guidance outlined here.

- The Health Commissioner also announced the resumption of on-site visitation for the state’s Long-Term Care Ombudsman program, which provides additional support to residents of nursing homes and long-term care facilities, effective July 15, 2020. Ombudsman staff must utilize appropriate PPE for the duration of the visit, and must be screened as if they were a staff person of such nursing home, including having to present a verified negative test result to the nursing home within the past week. See: Press Release

  - The Department of Health will adjust the visitation policy as appropriate based on facts and data following this initial phase to ensure the health and safety of residents, staff and visitors. View State DOH guidance for resumption of limited visitation at nursing homes, adult care facilities and pediatric skilled nursing facilities.

- Reopening of Establishments:
  - Scheduled
    - Summer day camps and child care may open statewide on June 29. See: State Guidance on how they should operate
      - New York will allow libraries to open for curbside service in Phase 1 of a region's reopening and allow limited in-person pickup in Phases 2/3. Libraries received guidance in recent days on how
they can proceed with providing services to residents in their communities as regions reopen

- Governor Cuomo announced that **places of worship** will be permitted to reopen with 25% occupancy during Phase Two, accelerating plans to reopen.
- Service goers will still have to maintain social distance.
- The Governor announced that low-risk youth sports, with two spectators for each child, can resume starting July 6 in phase three of the opening process [Press Release](June 16)
- All group homes certified by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities can begin visitations on Friday, June 19 as long as they notify the state and follow state guidelines.

**Approved to reopen:**

- Dental Offices
- Veterinary Offices with limitations
- Landscaping and Gardening, Drive-In Theaters
- The Governor announced that outdoor, socially distanced **graduation ceremonies** will be allowed starting on June 26, the governor announced Sunday. No more than 150 people can take part in each ceremony, however – a condition that suggests that all but the smallest schools will have to break up their festivities into multiple gatherings. See: [Press Release (June 7)](June 7)
- The Governor approved the reopening of indoor shopping malls outside New York City starting Friday, July 10 provided the establishments have installed new air filters that remove coronavirus particles from the air.
- Governors Island is reopening starting July 8 with **early access ferry tickets are available for reservation**. Seniors, young people (under 12), NYCHA residents and IDNYC cardholders ride free, instead of paying $3. Socially-distanced ferries will start running again next Wednesday
(7/15) at 10 am, and Manhattan ferries will run daily from the Battery Maritime Building at 10 South Street.

- DMV Licensed Driving Schools are permitted to conduct distance-learning pre-license courses [Press Release](#) (July 29)

**Financial Assistance**

- The Governor announced that more than **$2.3 million has been awarded to support 61 businesses and residential landlords with COVID-19 related costs and expenses through the New York Forward Loan Fund**. Fifty-four of these loans were provided to minority- and women-owned businesses. Applications are still being accepted and businesses from qualifying industries, including agriculture, construction, food services, retail, education services, manufacturing and transportation, are encouraged to apply. Applications are available [here](#). See: [Press Release](#)

**Workplace information:**

- The governor issued an executive order allowing commercial buildings to conduct temperature checks on people entering. Read the order [here](#).
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control has released a new set of guidelines for how the risk of coronavirus can be mitigated in the workplace. Temperature checks for employees, plastic shields between desks and wearing face coverings at all times are among the recommendations. The CDC also recommends employees drive to work by themselves.

**Child Care:**

- Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that **$65 million in federal CARES Act funding is available for child care providers statewide through the New York Forward Child Care Expansion Incentive program**. The funding available includes:
  - $20 million to assist childcare program with reopening and expansion of capacity by providing materials to support a more socially distant model,
and for supplies and activities associated with reopening and expansion. This may include partitions, short term rental of space, etc.

- $45 million in childcare Reopening and Expansion Incentive funds to pay for 50% of the cost of a newly opened classroom (maximum grant amount of $6,000) as an incentivize to open the classroom. The temporary funds will phase out over the second and third months as more parents bring their children back into childcare.

- To be eligible for reopening funds, child care programs must have either been closed as of June 15 and have a plan to reopen within two weeks of applying or currently operating below their licensed capacity and would like to expand. The grants will be pro-rated as programs reach capacity. Programs must submit a detailed plan for use of funds and must remain open at least through the end of the year.

- The maximum awards for the $20 million in Reopening and Restructuring Incentives depend on the size of the program and range from $300 to $1,600 one-time grants. Child care programs may apply to OCFS through July 15.

**Restaurants:**

- The State Liquor Authority will be able to immediately suspend a liquor license if businesses do not enforce social distancing rules and be subject to an "immediate shutdown order."

- Bars and restaurants will also be responsible for the areas outside their establishments, such as on the sidewalks.

- **Governor Cuomo amended an Executive Order (EO) to provide updated guidance for food and beverage establishments effective immediately.** Under this EO, businesses selling or serving alcohol to be consumed at the business or elsewhere must ensure that everyone within 100 feet of their business is:
- In compliance with open-container, social-distancing, and face-covering rules; and
  - Following all existing rules, regulations, and laws.
  - Businesses that cannot follow these guidelines must stop selling alcohol until they can. Patrons can also be fined for breaking open container or social distancing rules.
  - Violations could result in having a license suspended or revoked, with fines up to $10,000 per violation. See: [Executive Order](#).
  - **The State Liquor authority continues to suspend licenses of establishments in violation of public health regulations.** See: [Press Release](#) (July 29) and additional activity [Press Release](#) (August 3)

- Indoor dining was scheduled to resume once New York City was approved to enter Phase 3 of Reopening. Due to safety concerns, the Governor announced that indoor dining will not be authorized in the City at this time. (July 1)

- Governor Cuomo announced that bars and restaurants across the state will no longer provide walk-up bar service or serve alcohol to people who aren’t purchasing food. [AP News](#) (July 16). The governor announced a new “three strikes” policy that will require bars and restaurants to close after they receive three citations for failing to follow rules, including mask-wearing and keeping people 6 feet (2 meters) apart. See: [Press Release](#)

- **Recreation:**
  - **If college sports resume in the fall, no fans will be allowed.** Just like with professional sports, college athletics can resume but no fans or spectators will be permitted at stadiums.
The Governor issued an Executive Order allowing low-risk, outdoor recreational activities and businesses providing such activities to open in regions that have met the public health and safety metrics required for phase one. (June 2)

- Includes tennis, golf and driving ranges (not miniature/mini golf) with food and retail services subject to the restrictions that are currently in effect within the region, and non-motorized boat use and rentals, such as row boats, kayaks, and canoes.

Governor Cuomo announced that decisions on the reopening of public pools and playgrounds would be at the discretion of local governments. (June 11)

State outdoor pools across New York opened for swimming starting on the July 4 weekend under the standard operating schedule of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. See: Guidance

- Visitors will be asked to sign-in with contact information to enable potential contact tracing measures.
- Pool capacity will be limited to 50 percent to help maintain 6-feet of distance in the water between swimmers who are not members of the same household or family unit.
- Lounge chairs, benches and picnic tables will be kept 10-feet apart from others.
- Face coverings or masks must be worn at all times in interior building spaces, including partially enclosed or covered outdoor areas; and at times outside (except in the pool) if social distancing cannot or is unlikely to be maintained.
- No group gatherings of 10 people or more will be allowed.
- A listing of State parks with swimming pools can be found on the here.

According to the NYS Department of Health, concessions are permitted to reopen with restrictions at state ocean and lakefront beaches beginning Sunday, July 12th. This includes concessions at popular destinations such as Jones Beach, Robert Moses, Sunken Meadow, and Lake Welch in Harriman State Park. We made this decision based on facts and science,
and in recognition that these concessions are largely outdoors and are similar to other businesses we have allowed to open with precautions as part of NY Forward. As always, New Yorkers and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines and wear face masks as appropriate, and local governments will be actively monitoring to ensure compliance.

- The Governor announced that low-risk youth sports, with two spectators for each child, can resume starting July 6 in regions in the phase three of the opening process Press Release (June 13)
  - Please see more detailed guidance which applies to non-professional, non-collegiate sports conducted by gyms/fitness centers and training facilities.

- The U.S. Open will be held in Queens without fans from August 31st to September 13th. The USTA will take extraordinary precautions to protect players and staff, including robust testing, additional cleaning, extra locker room space and dedicated housing and transportation.

- The 2020 MTV Video Music Awards to Be Held with Limited to No Audience at Barclays Center in Brooklyn on Sunday, August 30.

- The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (State Parks) marked the start of summer by launching a new, user-friendly mobile app for smart devices to provide visitors and prospective visitors useful information about the destinations and activities at the state’s parks and historic sites. Users can learn more about destinations with rotating curated content, and will enjoy quick access to park information, including directions, hours, amenities, fees and rates, trail maps, helpful know-before-you-go details, and the ability to receive important updates and alerts. Visitors can link directly to online camping reservations and easily access select State Parks’ social media channels.

- The Governor announced that the U.S. Open Championship will be held at Winged Foot Golf Club in Mamaroneck from September 14th to September 20th without fans and spectators. The USGA will put protocols in
place to protect players and staff, including rigorous protocols for testing, cleaning, use of face coverings and social distancing. (July 29)

FEDERAL INFORMATION

• The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released several new resources to help prevent the spread of and treat COVID-19:
  o The CDC and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced that payments are available to health care providers for counseling patients at the time of COVID-19 testing about the importance of self-isolation after they are tested and prior to the onset of symptoms.
  o Individuals with HIV may have questions or concerns regarding their risk of serious illness from COVID-19. The CDC answers some of those questions here.
  o Long-standing systemic health and social inequities have placed many individuals from racial and ethnic minority groups at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Learn about some of the factors contributing to risk and what can be done here.
  o The CDC has several guidance and planning documents available for people with disabilities here.
  o If you are considering traveling to another country, you can review the CDC’s travel health notices here.
  o If you have or think you might have COVID-19, the CDC has information on when it is safe to be around others. In particular, the CDC recommends limiting contact with other people until:
    ▪ 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; and
    ▪ 24 hours have passed with no fever and without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
      COVID-19 symptoms have improved (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).
  o If you are returning to work, the CDC provides a list of factors to consider in preparation, including whether there are ways in which you can minimize the number of people with whom you interact.
If you are considering using transportation, including public transit, rideshares and taxis, micro-mobility devices, and personal vehicles, the CDC has recommendations to reduce the risk of COVID-19.

The CDC updated its guidance on traveling during the COVID-19 PHE. If you are thinking about traveling, the CDC recommends that you consider factors such as whether
- COVID-19 is spreading at your destination;
- You or someone you live with might be more likely to get very ill from COVID-19; and
- Your destination has requirements or restrictions for travelers.

If you are considering traveling abroad, you can find information on health threats in destinations around the world through the CDC’s Travel Health Notices (THNs). The CDC also has an interactive world map containing the agency’s COVID-19 travel recommendations by country.

The CDC also has information about returning from international travel, including what to do if you participated in activities that are considered higher risk.

**Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**

HHS and the Department of Defense (DoD) announced agreements with Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline to support advanced development, including clinical trials and large-scale manufacturing, of 100 million doses of a COVID-19 investigational adjuvanted vaccine. By funding the manufacturing effort, the federal government will own the doses that result from the demonstration project. The adjuvanted vaccine doses could be used in clinical trials or, if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorizes use, as outlined in agency guidance, the doses would be distributed as part of a COVID-19 vaccination campaign.
- HHS released a series of public service announcements (PSAs) and announced over $8 million in digital, radio, and out-of-home advertisements to support a broader effort imploring Americans to donate their plasma and help save lives. The PSA campaign seeks to dramatically increase donations of convalescent plasma by the end of August.

- HHS, the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced the formation of the COVID-19 Insights Partnership, an initiative to coordinate and share health data as well as research and expertise regarding COVID-19. The COVID-19 Insights Partnership creates a framework for HHS and the VA to utilize DOE’s world-leading high-performance computing and artificial intelligence resources to conduct COVID-19 research and analyze health data that would otherwise not be possible.

- HHS also released a new report showing a significant increase in utilization trends of telehealth services for primary care delivery in Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicare in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. Providers in both rural and urban counties saw increases in telehealth adoption and utilization; however, providers in rural counties saw a smaller growth in telehealth visits as a proportion of all primary care visits in March and April, with a decrease again in May. By contrast, providers in urban counties saw greater telehealth use in March and April and smaller declines in May.

- **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**
  - The FDA updated its “Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease” webpage by adding information on what U.S. exporters of FDA-regulated food products need to consider related to COVID-19. The FDA states that, at this time, there is no evidence of transmission of the COVID-19 virus through food or food packaging, and the FDA does not anticipate that foods will need to be recalled or withdrawn from the market because of COVID-19.
The FDA also posted frequently asked questions for patients and consumers about antibody (serology) testing during the COVID-19 PHE. It explains what antibodies are, that the test cannot be used to diagnose COVID-19, that a positive result means that a person likely recently or previously had COVID-19, and that a positive result does not necessarily mean that someone is immune to COVID-19, among other information.

The FDA continues to warn consumers and health care professionals not to use certain alcohol-based hand sanitizers due to the dangerous presence of methanol. The FDA is proactively working with manufacturers to recall products and is encouraging retailers to remove products from their stores and online marketplaces.

The FDA issued a warning letter to Eskbiochem S.A. de C.V. regarding the distribution of products labeled as manufactured at its facilities with undeclared methanol, misleading claims (e.g., incorrectly stating that the FDA approved the products), and improper manufacturing practices.

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1 The Information, which is not intended to be exhaustive, is culled from multiple publicly available sources.