



TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN

PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

TOWN MANAGER ISSUES EXECUTIVE ORDER WITH NOTICE TO SEASONAL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

MARCH 25, 2020: The Town of South Kingstown is monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, is following State and Federal guidance to help promote the health and safety of our community, and is implementing additional precautionary measures to reduce opportunities for COVID-19 transmission in South Kingstown.

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the State of Emergency declared by the Governor March 9th, 2020, the Declaration of Emergency by the Town Council March 15th, 2020, the Town Manager has issued an Executive Order today implementing additional directives. The full Executive Order and Notice to Seasonal Residents & Visitors is attached to this Press Release for ease in reference. The Town is providing notice of the following:

- **Travel to the Town of South Kingstown is discouraged for non-residents or seasonal residents.**
- **Full time residents are encouraged to restrict travel for essential purposes only.**
- **Non-residents and seasonal residents must self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to South Kingstown.**
- **Anyone who has visited New York must self-quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to South Kingstown.**
- **Owners and operators of short-term lodging must cease taking new reservations for occupancy dates that fall within the emergency ordinance period.**
- **Businesses which remain open in South Kingstown must post a copy of the attached Notice and Executive Order so that it is visible to all people entering the business.**
- **The South Kingstown Police Department shall have the authority to enforce the Executive Order, and any violation punishable by a \$500 fine per day the violation continues.**

Guidance for Members of the Public: During this pandemic, all residents are strongly advised to minimize their risk through the use of social distancing. The Town echoes the guidance issued by the Governor for residents to please stay home, except for running essential errands such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, and avoid crowded places. Please be advised that even when gathering in small numbers, social distancing guidance is to maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other people. Residents are strongly advised to follow proper handwashing techniques, and proper cough and sneeze techniques; to remain home if you are sick (with any symptoms); and to self-quarantine for 14 days and contact RIDOH if you have traveled anywhere internationally in the last 14 days. Residents should be aware of potential COVID-19 symptoms including fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Residents are advised to contact their healthcare provider if they believe they may have COVID-19, and per RIDOH guidance, please do not go directly to a healthcare facility without first calling, unless you are experiencing a medical emergency. Residents are strongly advised to stay up to date on the Federal, State, and local response to, and guidance on, the evolving COVID-19 situation. Please visit the Town's COVID-19 webpage for up to date information and links to Federal, State, and local resources www.southkingstownri.com/998/COVID-19. Because of the evolving nature of this ongoing community health situation, the Town may implement additional mitigation measures with short notice, and the information provided here is subject to change. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. For additional updates from the Town, as well as information and resources related to COVID-19, we encourage residents to visit www.southkingstownri.com. Updates and information will also be shared via the Town's official Facebook page, www.facebook.com/southkingstownri. Questions can be referred to the Town Manager's Office at (401) 789-9331 x1201.



Town of South Kingstown, Rhode Island

Office of the Town Manager

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Robert C. Zarnetske
Town Manager

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-03

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown declared a state of emergency through an emergency ordinance enacted on March 15, 2020 to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council delegated emergency authority to the Town Manager to take measures he deems necessary in order to protect public health and safety in response to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, social distancing is the most effective and important tool available to combat the spread of the pandemic;

NOW THEREFORE, the following emergency measures are hereby enacted:

1. Travel to the Town of South Kingstown is discouraged for any non-resident or seasonal resident. Full-time residents are encouraged to restrict travel for essential purposes only, such as medical care, care of a family member, or obtaining food and other necessary provisions.
2. Any non-resident or seasonal resident arriving to South Kingstown must immediately Self-Quarantine (as that term is hereinafter defined) for two weeks and follow any Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) guidelines pertaining to the pandemic.
3. Furthermore, any South Kingstown residents or visitors who have recently visited the State of New York are directed to Self-Quarantine for a period of two weeks from the day they left the State of New York.
4. The term "Self-Quarantine" means to remain at your residence except for medical care or emergencies. Self-Quarantine includes having food and other necessities delivered to the residence rather than leaving the residence to obtain such food/necessities. Persons under Self-Quarantine must monitor for symptoms such as fever, cough and shortness of breath.
5. All Short-Term Lodging owners and operators, including their agents and employees shall cease taking new reservations for occupancy dates which fall within the effective period of the emergency ordinance, unless the lodging is provided to public safety professionals and/or medical professionals that are locating in Town for the purpose of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. For purposes of this emergency ordinance, "Short-Term Lodging" is lodging of thirty (30) days or fewer, including, but not limited to lodging in hotels, inns, motels, and online rental platforms including but not limited to Air BnB.

6. All essential businesses remaining open in the Town of South Kingstown must post a copy of this order in a prominent place, so that it is visible to all people entering the business.
7. This executive order shall remain in effect until April 15, 2020, unless terminated prior to that date by a subsequent order. This executive order may be further extended if necessary by a subsequent executive order.
8. Any violation of any provision of this executive order is punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500), with every day a violation continues considered a separate violation. The South Kingstown Police Department shall have the authority to enforce this executive order.



Robert Zarnetske, Town Manager

Date: March 25, 2020

Attest:



Susan M. Flynn, Town Clerk



NOTICE TO SEASONAL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO SOUTH KINGSTOWN

MARCH 25, 2020: With the dramatic increase in COVID-19 cases in the New York City metropolitan area, in recent days Rhode Island shoreline communities have seen an unseasonably high number of visitors. Many New York and Connecticut residents own summer homes in Southern Rhode Island and these summer residents are an important part of our economy and contribute significance to the character of our community.

We implore those coming in from the New York metropolitan areas to engage in safe social distancing practices. While South Kingstown may seem like a safe refuge from the outbreak in the City, we still need to remember that we are only as safe as the practices we use to limit the spread of the virus.

In order to reduce the risk of inadvertent community spread, the South Kingstown Police Department will enforce a local order directing that **ALL VISITORS arriving in South Kingstown must quarantine themselves for 14 days after their arrival in town**. Violation of the quarantine requirement will subject each violator to a \$500 fine for each violation. Please refer to Executive Order 2020-03 dated March 25th, 2020 for additional detail.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. For additional updates from the Town, as well as information and resources related to COVID-19, we encourage residents to visit www.southkingstownri.com/998/COVID-19. Questions can be referred to the Town Manager's Office at (401) 789-9331 x1201.

Robert Zarnetske
Town Manager
Town of South Kingstown, RI