COVID-19 Daily Update 4-10-20

TRUE OR FALSE QUIZ
Test Your Vinalhaven Covid-19 Smarts!

True or False?
The government will be calling and asking for our bank information and social security number before they send us the promised $1200.

False. No one from the government will call you to ask for your bank information and social security number. There are many, many scammers trying to steal from all of us. If you’ve received a tax refund through direct deposit in the past, you don’t have to do anything, the IRS will just deposit the money into your account. The same goes for people who are on Social Security or disability. If you don’t have direct deposit, the IRS will send you a physical check. They are not calling anyone!

True or False?
Covering your face when going on essential errands will keep you from getting Covid-19.

False. Covering your face helps prevent you from spreading the virus, even if you are showing no symptoms. It won’t stop you from getting the virus from someone else. Everyone who’s out in public within six feet of others should be wearing a face covering.

True or False?
It never snows in April. OK, that’s not a Covid question!

False. It snows every April, usually after some wonderful weather! Last year at this time we got 4 inches. It will go away fast, though.

True or False?
Private Property signs are not relevant now, since we all need to get outside walking.

False. Most people with woodsy properties welcome walkers, especially in the winter when they are not here. However, it is within the rights of property owners to restrict walkers. Please respect private posted property.

True or False?
Self-employed people are not eligible for unemployment compensation.

False. Although the self-employed are usually not eligible for unemployment compensation, The Cares Act, a Federal bill signed into law on March 30, 2020, expanded unemployment benefits to the self-employed. However, the states, not the federal government, administer the program. The place to start your application is with the State of Maine Department of Labor, maine.gov/unemployment. The Department currently reports the following: “If you are self-employed or have exhausted all available benefits, please wait to file. Federal benefits are NOT yet available, but they are coming.” The best thing to do is to check this website daily.
True or False?
Our pets can’t give anyone Covid-19.
MOSTLY False. Pets can’t transmit the virus the same way that we do, by coughing, sneezing, or just breathing those droplets into the air. If someone who is ill, however, rubs their coat, and someone who is not, does the same, the healthy person may pick it up. It’s just something to be conscious of – love your own pet, but don’t pet other people’s pets.

True or False?
I’m 20 and healthy, I don’t need to worry about Covid-19.
False. Although it is true that people over 65 and people with other health problems such as cardiac and respiratory diseases are at much greater risk of dying of Covid-19, last week, according to CDC records, almost 15% of people testing positive were ages 18-49, over 5% of hospitalizations were for that age group, and over 500 people have died.

True or False?
The virus moves, we don’t move the virus.
False. The virus doesn’t move, WE MOVE THE VIRUS! Without human to human interaction, the virus would have never made it to Maine

True or False?
Vinalhaven doesn’t regulate AirBnB’s, so it’s OK to rent mine.
False. Governor Mills issued an executive order on April 3, 2020, which stated, “all lodging operations and accommodations shall close except to the extent of providing lodging for the purposes…. of housing vulnerable populations...providing accommodations for health care workers...use of lodging properties as self-quarantine or self-isolation facilities as arranged by the State...limited verifiable extenuating circumstances for the care and safety of residents. Read the full text of the order here: maine.gov/governor/mills/sites/maine.gov.governor.mills/files/inline-files/EO%202034.pdf

True or False?
Landscaping and construction projects are not an essential service.
False. The governor’s office has clarified the questions we had about essential workers, and landscapers and construction workers are considered essential. However, proper precautions still have to be taken on the job site, including establishing that six foot separation between workers, face coverings when appropriate, and frequent hand washing and sanitizing of work spaces.

Thanks for taking the Quiz! And thanks for doing your part to stay at home, stay healthy, and stay safe! Share the online version of this quiz at surveymonkey.com/r/9BKKWVS

As always, please contact the EOC with your questions and for assistance. Subscribe to “Town Alerts” on the Town’s website to automatically receive Daily Updates in your inbox.