



COVID-19 Vinalhaven Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

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COVID-19 Update 5-18-20

SAFETY FIRST—Stay Safer at Home While Restarting Maine’s Economy

How come I can go out to a restaurant, but not to dinner at a friend’s house? Why can I go play a game of golf, but not a game of basketball? How come I can sit in the same room with my hairdresser, but I can’t sit in the same room with my grandkids?

We live in crazy times. The messages we are getting about what we can and cannot do are contradictory and confusing to say the least. As the Governor’s plan for Restarting the Maine Economy continues to unfold, more and more it seems to conflict with the **Stay Safer at Home Executive Order**, which is still **in effect until May 31st**.

Both documents are in place to guide our actions with the goal of staying safe and slowing the spread of the virus so as to not overwhelm community resources. Both documents share the goal of keeping people healthy. But the plan for Restarting Maine’s Economy has the additional goal of keeping the economy healthy, and it’s hard for these two goals to exist simultaneously without being contradictory.

While we’d all like to have some cut-and-dry answers for how we can best behave, we know we have to **act in ways that focus on our primary goal—keeping ourselves and others safe**. If you are acting as though you have the virus, your interactions with others should be limited. In the absence of concrete answers, the emphasis should be on staying home, unless you are taking part in an essential activity or seeking allowable services, see the table below for further clarification.

Stage 1, May Plan for RESTARTING MAINE’S ECONOMY

PERSONAL RESTRICTIONS	ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED	NOW PERMITTED <i>when following DECD checklist standards*</i>
Stay at Home order remains in effect except for newly permitted activities If arriving from out-of-state, self-quarantine for 14 days Face Coverings MUST be worn in public settings where physical distancing measures are difficult to maintain	Gatherings of up to 10 people while obtaining essential services and maintaining 6 feet separation and wearing a face covering All businesses allowed to operate previously may continue to do so	Gatherings of more than 10 people for ANY REASON	Health Care from Maine Licensed Providers Some Personal Services including hair salons barbershops, pet grooming Limited drive-in, stay-in-your-vehicle church services Outdoor Recreation, including Golf Courses and Disc Courses, Guided outdoor activities (Hunting, Fishing) Marinas, Some 30 State Parks and Historic Sites, but coastal sites will remain closed, State-owned public lands, trails Drive-in Theaters Retail businesses Restaurants (for dine-in service and outdoor dining) Wilderness campsites and sporting camps

* maine.gov/decd/covid-19-prevention-checklists

Please check the Town website or Facebook page – updates are posted M-W-F by 7 PM. You can email questions to VHEOC@townofvinalhaven.org. This community is a special place and together we will get through this!