COVID-19 Update 5-20-20

FAQs
Yes, everything is uncertain. Yes, everything is constantly changing. And yes, there are some things we do know (for the moment at least) and can provide guidance on…

Quarantine
Q: I’m planning to come to the island in June from an area in Maine with community spread. Do I have to quarantine?
A: The current Stay Healthy at Home Executive Order only mandates a 14 day quarantine for those travelling to Maine from out-of-state. It does not require those already residing in Maine to quarantine if they choose to travel within the state. However, for the safety of the community, the Public Health Team strongly recommends those travelling from “hot spots” and areas of community transmission within the state, quarantine for 14 days upon arrival to the island.

Q: Do I have to quarantine when I come back to the island after going to the mainland?
A: As stated above, there currently is a Stay Healthy at Home Order mandating only leaving home for essential reasons. If you must travel to the mainland, try to minimize any potential exposure to the virus. Use social distancing, wear a mask, practice frequent and thorough hand washing/sanitizing, visit as few public places as necessary. Monitor and check for fever and symptoms for 14 days upon returning. If you feel you may have been in contact with a potentially sick person, consider the suggested 14 day quarantine.

Q: This summer, guests are coming from out-of-state to stay with me. I know they need to quarantine for 14 days, but does the rest of my household have to quarantine with them?
A: If you have visitors coming from out-of-state to stay with you in the same household, they must quarantine for 14 days, which, in turn, requires you to quarantine for 14 days.

Getting Supplies
Q: How can I find out if stores are open and what their procedure for shopping is?
A: The best way to do this is to contact businesses directly. The Town has a short list of essential services which includes business contact info. The Vinalhaven Chamber of Commerce website also serves as a business directory. The Vinalhaven phone book is also available online.

Q: Do local businesses want people arriving from the mainland to come with the supplies they’ll need? Or should we plan to buy what we need from island stores?
A: Local businesses would prefer you shop on-island; they want your business! Just remember, if you’re coming from out-of-state, once you arrive on-island, you must quarantine—no stopping in town to shop first. Please contact businesses prior to your arrival to arrange for delivery of goods.

Q: How can I get food and supplies delivered either on-island or from the mainland if I can’t or don’t want to leave home?
A: For on-island goods, ICMS offers free delivery with Vinalhaven Taxi to anyone in need of supplies whether choosing to stay home or in quarantine. Contact Vinalhaven Taxi (207-720-0056) or the business you are shopping with to request delivery. For mainland deliveries, Bunkers (207-863-4828) and Penobscot Island Air (PIA) (207-596-7500) offer various pick up and delivery options. In addition, Phil Crossman and his brother Dick provide mainland deliveries to the island (207-863-4917).

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!