



## COVID-19 Vinalhaven Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

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# COVID-19 Update 5-4-20

## BALANCING THE RISK TO PUBLIC HEALTH VS THE IMPACT TO THE LOCAL ECONOMY

The State's plan to Restart Maine's Economy takes into consideration the difficult challenge of limiting the public health risk of COVID-19 and the economic stability of our state. The Mills Administration recognizes the importance of keeping Maine people working and seeing businesses succeed, but there does need to be a way to consider the public's risk of opening too soon and doing so in a way that cannot promote the physical distancing guidelines set out by the CDC.

### Governor Mills' Guiding Principles *for the Staged Approach to Restart Maine's Economy*

#### 1 PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH

The State will continue to use epidemiological data, such as case trends and hospitalization rates, to inform decisions about the appropriate time to lift restrictions.

#### 2 MAINTAINING HEALTH CARE READINESS

Maine must be able to respond to any surge of COVID-19. To that end, the State will continue to work closely with hospitals and health systems to assess system capacity, including available hospital beds, ICU beds and ventilators, and to procure and distribute personal protective equipment to hospitals, nursing facilities, emergency services, and other frontline responders.

#### 3 BUILDING RELIABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TESTING

Testing for all symptomatic people and sentinel disease surveillance are key foundations for opening the economy. While the widespread availability of rapid testing remains a challenge, the State is actively seeking to expand testing to make it more accessible to Maine people.

#### 4 PRIORITIZING PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION

Opening Maine's economy depends on close collaboration among businesses, employees, government, and the public to develop, implement, oversee, and accept guidelines and safe practices. A new Economic Recovery task force will be appointed to ensure this occurs.

Vinalhaven is no different. Our Public Health Team's concerns for what happens if we go back to business as usual echo those of the state. We want to see businesses adapt and succeed during this state of emergency, and we are here to help you make necessary changes. Please reach out to us if you have any questions relating to COVID-19 by emailing [vheoc@townofvinalhaven.org](mailto:vheoc@townofvinalhaven.org) or calling **207-863-2168**