



CITY OF HALLOWELL

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Hallowell Mask / Face Covering Order 20-09

Dear friends and citizens of Hallowell,

I met last week with the physician members of the Hallowell Board of Health, and in consultation with them and Hallowell's Emergency Operations Center Staff, and with the City Council members present at the EOCS meeting, we discussed the community health benefits of a local order requiring the proper use of face masks or coverings while people are in enclosed spaces and/or outside in places where the minimum of six feet of distance can't be consistently maintained.

On July 8, the Governor ordered that certain businesses in Maine's larger municipalities and coastal tourism destinations are required to enforce her April 28 mask / face covering order, to protect public health and the safety of both patrons and employees. Recognizing that Hallowell is a neighbor to one of those larger municipalities, and also that our popular restaurants, businesses, cultural assets, and open spaces are a destination for summer tourists from around the nation, we want to do more to ensure public safety.

Hallowell is a community that cares. We're home to four large residences / care facilities for older people and also for people who may have mitigating health issues. And, we're a welcoming community with a broad cross section of personal health needs and family challenges resulting from the COVID-19 emergency. For these reasons, and to protect our small business, restaurant, pub, and lodging economy, we will today implement an executive order under our city-wide state of emergency that requires businesses to enforce the Governor's face covering / mask order in retail stores, restaurants and dining establishments, bars, recreational facilities, lodging facilities including inns, bed and breakfasts, and short term rentals, on public transportation, and in public buildings and open spaces.

Our neighboring Town of Winthrop has implemented similar requirements, recognizing that a regional approach will make things easier and safer for everyone in central Maine: same rules, same reasons, same concern for the health, safety, and well-being of our friends, neighbors, elders, veterans, and first responders.

Residents with questions or concerns about compliance with this order can contact Doug Ide, the Hallowell Code Enforcement Officer, at 207-430-4405, or Nate Rudy, the City Manager and Health Officer, at 207-430-4403, and we will work with any entities identified for non-compliance with the most current guidance from the State of Maine on complying with local and state requirements. The state has established an [online form](#) where residents can report non-compliance with COVID-19, and has also created a [list of Maine-based companies](#) that provide masks, COVID-19 related supplies, and other goods and services. We have received reports that public facilities like the playground at Vaughan Field and the RES park have been misused or abused by people who are not honoring safe distancing practices or are leaving their trash and refuse behind. For these spaces to remain open and available to the public, citizens must monitor their own COVID-19 safety and risk exposure while using public parks and open spaces, and City parks are “Carry In, Carry Out” for all trash—**bring your mask when you visit, take your trash with you when you go**. Facility users are encouraged to contact the Hallowell Police Department at 207-623-3131 to report any misuse or abuse of City parks and open spaces.

Numerous City and State resources and other contact information and updates are available on the City website, along with registration information for our Constant Contact and NIXLE public safety mailing lists: <https://hallowell.govoffice.com/>

Please join us in bringing your mask and/or face covering with you wherever you are shopping, dining, and recreating throughout central Maine, and thank you for your support!

Respectfully yours,

Nate Rudy

Attachments: Memo from the Board of Health to the Mayor and City Council
City of Hallowell Executive Order 20-09