

# COVID-19 UPDATE FROM NORTH ELBA SUPERVISOR JAY RAND

**May 24, 2020**

Dear Citizens of North Elba,

It is nice to see such beautiful weather for this very special **Memorial Day Weekend** which normally is celebrated with well attended parades and special ceremonies at our American Legion POST 326 in honor of all who gave the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation.

Unlike conflicts of the past our present enemy (COVID-19) is invisible to us but has proved to be a formidable worldwide opponent in which global nations have united to overcome. Our heroes do not carry guns in this case but have been present 24/7 wrapped in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) within our many worldwide hospitals.

Although flags will not be lowered and raised this weekend at POST 326 due to COVID-19 remember to honor all of the past and present heroes in your thoughts and prayers.

On May 18, Essex County Officials met in person for the first time since COVID-19 became a nationwide problem. All in attendance were wearing facemasks and seating was rearranged for social distancing. One subject discussed was **summer youth programs** and the difficult issues involved to run them safely. Upon conclusion of the discussion a unanimously approved motion was passed opposing the operation of summer youth programs in Essex County.

Although with regret the North Elba Town Board also unanimously agreed with this decision as there were simply too many risks involved to the participants and counselors. Hopefully, next year we will get our summer rec program up and running again stronger than ever. Kudos to the past employees who have made this program so valuable for the community.

**Beaches**, however, have been given the go ahead by Governor Cuomo to reopen. Restrictions will include:

- 50% capacity, prohibiting group activities, keeping playgrounds, picnic areas and other areas of social gatherings closed.
- Enforcing social distancing measures for visitors and employees.
- Requiring masks when social distancing is not possible.
- Closing concessions.
- Maintaining staff levels to perform all duties including enforcement.

It is anticipated that the Lake Placid Public Beach will open later in June as it normally has in past years. We are still looking for [lifeguards for the season](#). Qualified candidates must be certified with valid Lifeguarding/Waterfront Training, as well as First Aid and CPR.

As you **golfers** most likely realize, some restrictions pertaining to golf carts and the use of bathroom facilities have been mitigated. Golf carts may be used by one person only unless by two family members living in the same household. Controlled access to the pro shop and bathroom facilities at the clubhouse are also permitted. Social distancing and sanitization procedures must be maintained at all times. Get your [2020 Craig Wood Golf Course Club Membership](#) for only \$199 now!

Good news for **Religious Services** - gatherings of up to 10 persons are now permitted within churches as long as proper social distancing is maintained. Drive-in services are also permitted. Great news – it's a start.

We are now in the second week of **New York Forward Phase One** which permits construction, manufacturing, and select retail (with curbside pickup). If all seven requirements are maintained we should be able to start **Phase 2** on **May 29**. Phase 2 includes professional services, finance and insurance, retail, administrative support, and real estate/rental leasing.

On May 26 at 9:30 a.m., the **Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism (ROOST)** is hosting their **Regional Update Call #5**. The video call and screen share (<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1489259204>) will cover the following important topics: public health update, status of opening, back to business training, local kick-start initiatives and hiker parking and information.

The **North Country Chamber of Commerce** continues to provide informational webinars for all businesses in preparation for reopening. Upcoming courses include information for Retail, Bringing Your Workforce Back, Chemical Safety, and Salons. You can also view the recorded trainings from last week which included Restaurants and Hotels. Go to [www.NorthCountryChamber.com](http://www.NorthCountryChamber.com) for further information.

Remember to support your local **restaurants** that may provide curbside **pickup service**. There are some great menus with plenty of variety out there. Most restaurants provide on line menus. Just call in, order and pick up. Subscribe to the **Lake Placid Insider** for up-to-date local business info.

In connection with the **Federal Aviation Administration On and Off Obstruction Mitigation Plan** for airport safety, **many trees** in and around the airport runway were removed last winter. New tree plantings to help dress the area up were completed last week as part of this same project. Many can be seen along the Recycle Circle Road going into the transfer station.

Testing is still a critical part of the requirements to keep us moving forward to additional phases. For further information see below. It is best and/or required to call ahead to make an appointment.

**Essex County Health Department (ECHD) has announced testing locations including:**

UVM Health Network Locations

Elizabethtown Community Hospital (518-873-3069) Daily by appointment.

Elizabethtown Community Hospital -Ticonderoga Campus (518-585-3927) Daily by appointment.

Adirondack Health Locations (518-897-2462)

AMC Center Covid 19 Clinic (Mon-Fri) 12pm-5pm

Keene Health Center (Tue) 1pm-4pm

Mobile Testing (sites vary) (Mon-Fri) 11am-3pm

**! IMPORTANT - NORTH ELBA'S CENSUS RESPONSE RATE IS WAY BELOW THE AVERAGE TOWNSHIPS – WE NEED TO BE COUNTED!**

If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the **2020 Census questionnaire**. It's quick, easy, safe, secure, and confidential. Your information and privacy are protected. Your response helps to direct billions of dollars in federal funds to **OUR community** for schools, roads, and other public services. Results also determine the number of seats OUR state has in Congress and OUR political representation at all levels of government. ! Please register and help our cause! DO IT NOW!

Additional information and daily postings may be found on the [Town of North Elba Website](#), the [Town of North Elba Facebook](#) page, the [Lake Placid Village Facebook](#) page and [Friends of Jay Rand Facebook](#) page.

Relevant local information, including restaurants offering take-out, retail stores offering curbside pick-up, as well as this newsletter can be received by subscribing to the [Lake Placid Insider](#).

This is a time like no other that we have experienced, but we will overcome this difficult period and return to normalcy quicker if we ALL practice what the NYS Department of Health has asked us to follow including:

**STAY HOME, DON'T TRAVEL, NO GROUP GATHERINGS, WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH WARM WATER AND SOAP OR HAND SANITIZERS WITH AT LEAST 60% ALCOHOL, WEAR MASKS IN PUBLIC, ETC. STAY SAFE**