

COVID-19 Newsletter

City of Atlantic City



Welcome to the Inaugural Newsletter

May 10, 2020

In an effort to keep residents and businesses informed on the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Atlantic City will be releasing a weekly informative newsletter. As everyone deals with this unprecedented event, and the uncertainty of when we can return to a semblance of normal, the City wants to keep everyone in Atlantic City up-to-date on information regarding this disease and the necessary resources that may be afforded to our residents and

businesses during this time. This newsletter will be released on Sunday of each week. It will highlight important COVID-19 information from the previous week, scheduled events or what to expect for the coming week, and other pertinent information.

The employees of Atlantic City are here to help, from our elected officials to the police department to public works. Your health and safety are always our first priority. We urge

you to communicate with us and help us keep you informed with this newsletter. We are here to assist with any questions you may have and will continue to provide you with important information as it becomes available.

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Important Safety Tips to Remember

In order to keep you, your family, and everyone safe during this pandemic, remember to follow these simple safety tips:

- If you can, stay home.
- Wash your hands frequently for at least 20 seconds.
- Maintain social distance of at least six feet.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Sneeze and cough into your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect regularly used surfaces.
- Stay home if you do not feel well.
- If you have a fever, cough, and difficulty breathing, seek medical care.
- Wear a face cover.

Atlantic City's Response to COVID-19

The City of Atlantic City is diligently working to keep everyone safe and healthy during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

Each day begins with a conference call that includes state and local officials and the heads of each city department. There are also weekly conference calls that include state, county, and local leaders and representatives. This collaboration helps us continue to update our response to COVID-19 and guarantees that we are continuing our best efforts to mitigate the virus in not only Atlantic City, but in our surrounding community as well.

As part of the regional efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- All city employees are currently working a modified schedule allowing our employees to remain healthy.
- City Hall remains closed, however, information can be obtained at www.cityofatlanticcity.org or by calling (833)359-

0084 for any needed service.

- The police and fire departments are continuing to provide their essential services.
- Department of Public Works and Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) Special Improvement District personnel are conducting frequent sanitization of bus shelters, boardwalk furniture, park and avenue benches, City Hall, the Public Safety Building, and the Atlantic City Convention Center.
- The Department of Licensing and Inspections has collaborated with police department detectives to make sure that all businesses within the City of Atlantic City are conforming to the Governor's Executive Orders, which place strict

restrictions on business operations in the state.

- The Atlantic City Initiatives Project Office (ACIPO) is collaborating with several social service agencies to provide relief for our homeless population who are at great risk during this time.
- All Municipal Court sessions have been postponed until further notice.

While we do our part during this outbreak, we ask that you do yours. We understand the need for social interaction, but we also understand that for the health and safety of our community we need everyone to abide by the stay-at-home order. If you must venture out, please wear a face covering and practice social distancing of at least six feet.

Hot Meals for Seniors Initiative

On April 27, the "Hot Meals for Seniors" initiative began. Residents living within 11 senior living facilities will receive one meal, twice a week for four weeks. The initiative will run through Saturday, May, 23. The funding is being provided by the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA). The meals will be delivered to each facility by members of the ACPD, ACFD, and public works.

Meals will be delivered each week on the following schedule.

Mondays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to the New York Avenue Apartments and Elliott House.

Mondays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Baltic Plaza Apartments and the Atlantic City Townhouse.

Tuesdays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to the Best of Life Park.

Tuesdays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Community Haven Senior Citizens Housing.

Wednesdays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to the New York Avenue Apartments, Elliott House, Baltic Plaza Apartments, and Atlantic City Townhouse.

Wednesdays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Charles P. Jeffries Tower, Inlet Tower, and the John P. Whittington Senior Living Center.

Thursdays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to the Best of Life Park and Community Haven Senior Citizens Housing.

Thursdays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Altman Terrace and Shore Park Hi-Rise.

Fridays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to Charles P. Jeffries Tower.

Fridays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Inlet Tower and the John P. Whittington Senior Living Center.

Saturdays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM to Shore Park Hi-Rise.

Saturdays from 3 PM to 4:30 PM to Altman Terrace.

COVID-19 Testing Sites for Atlantic City Residents

COVID-19 symptomatic Atlantic City residents can now be tested by appointment only at two locations. The testing sites, which are being funded by a federal Community Development Block Grant, include a walk-up and drive thru site that will operate on alternating days for four weeks.

The City has received technical guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health to aid in the planning of these testing sites. Reliance Medical Group, a primary healthcare provider based in Northfield, will be tasked with conducting the medical testing.

Both sites will be open from 10 AM to 2 PM. There is no fee for the test. In order to be tested, the individual must:

- Have a COVID-19 test prescription from their doctor (if an individual is symptomatic and does not

possess a prescription, a Reliance physician on-site can provide the prescription),

- Read and accept the consent form (available in the appointment portal),
- Have an appointment,
- Have a copy of the appointment confirmation,
- Have identification proving the individual is an Atlantic City resident.

Law enforcement will be on hand to ensure that individuals not meeting all of the above requirements will be asked to leave the testing site.

The drive thru site will be stationed in the area of the Surf Stadium located at 545 N. Albany Avenue. This site will only be open on Wednesdays and Fridays. The individual being tested does not

have to be driving, they can be a passenger. Occupants are to keep their windows up until instructed. The entry point will be at the intersection of Albany and Filbert Avenues.

The walk-up testing site will be located in the 800 block of Atlantic Avenue in the surface parking lot of the Showboat Hotel. This site will only be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The entry point will be on Delaware Avenue. Individuals can be driven to the site, but those being tested must be able to walk through the testing area without assistance.

For more information and to schedule an appointment, visit the City of Atlantic City website (www.cityofatlanticcity.org), click "COVID-19 Testing", and follow the prompts. If further assistance is needed, call 609-318-6990.

Field Medical Station

The City of Atlantic City and the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) worked closely with local, state, and federal government agencies to temporarily convert the Atlantic City Convention Center into a Field Medical Station during the COVID-19 crisis.

Here are important details with regard to the Field Medical Station at the convention center:

- The field station is for **non-COVID-19** patients who are released from a traditional hospital setting and need to recover.
- The field medical station is not a walk-up hospital, medical treatment center,

or doctor's office. The public cannot access this facility on their own and visitors are not permitted.

- Local traffic will not be impeded during this time.
- The facility is currently designed to handle 250 patients and each cubicle will include a bed, chair and IV stand. The building is equipped to handle up to 2,000 beds if necessary.
- Local labor was used to build the field station.
- This facility is staffed by medical professionals including medical personnel from the U.S.



Department of Defense and the New Jersey National Guard.


- The field medical station is accepting patients from all across New Jersey, including the state's other field station locations at the Meadowlands Expo Center and the New Jersey Expo Center.

Ways to Stay Informed

City of Atlantic City- 833.359.0084 / www.cityofatlanticcity.org /    @AtlanticCityGov

Atlantic City Police Department- 609.347.5780 / www.acpolice.org /  @AtlanticCityPolice /   @AtlanticCityPD

Atlantic City Fire Department- 609.347.5590 /  @acfdlocal198 /  @AtlanticCityFD

Atlantic City Office of Emergency Management- 609.347.5466 /  @AtlanticCityOEM

Tip411- Receive email and/or text message alerts from the police department. Go to <https://www.tip411.com/groups> to begin the process.

Code Red Alert System- Receive information from your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. Go to www.cityofatlanticcity.org and locate the Code Red tab on the homepage to begin the process.

Message from the Mayor

During this most difficult and unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is my top priority to protect Atlantic City's most precious resource: our citizens! You can rest assured that the City of Atlantic City is 100% committed and doing everything possible to ensure your health, well-being and safety.

Furthermore, we are working diligently to comply with standards and guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as state government, to keep

you informed and up-to-date on the latest COVID-19 developments.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere appreciation to those individuals who are on the frontline of this pandemic. To the healthcare heroes, emergency personnel, public safety and public works employees, and City Hall staff, please accept my heartfelt thanks for making an important difference in the lives of others.

Remember: "this too shall pass." Please be patient.

Please be strong. And together we will get through this!

Thank you.

Yours in service to the community,

Marty Small, Sr.

