



TOWN OF GORHAM

P R E S S R E L E A S E

www.gorham-me.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Town of Gorham Facilities Will Reopen June 1, 2020

Gorham, Maine (May 28, 2020) – Town of Gorham municipal facilities will reopen on Monday, June 1, 2020 *by appointment only*. In order to enter any indoor Town facility, all members of the public are required to make an appointment, wear a face covering per Executive Order #49 FY 19/20, and social distancing requirements must be followed. Please observe maximum occupancy limits posted at all offices. Town staff and vendors are also required to wear a face covering when within six feet of others. We strongly encourage residents to utilize our online services whenever possible which can be found at www.gorham-me.org.

Making Appointments

Appointments can be made as follows:

- For appointments with the Town Clerk's Office, go to <https://gorham.youcanbook.me/> or call 222-1670. The Clerk's Office will make every effort to schedule seniors and vulnerable populations early in the morning before the general public.
- For appointments with Community Development Offices (Code, Assessing, Planning and/or Economic Development divisions), go to <https://communitydev.youcanbook.me/> or call 222-1620.
- For appointments with the Recreation Office, go to <https://gorhamrec.youcanbook.me/> or call 222-1630.
- Call 222-1600 to reach a Town department directory to request an appointment directly with the office in which you need assistance. Many services can be performed online at <https://www.gorham-me.org/home/pages/online-transactions>.

Preparing for Your Appointment

Town office occupancy limits, physical distancing requirements and face covering policies will be posted at entrances and throughout Town facilities. When in line for a scheduled appointment, please follow social distancing markers.

The Gorham Municipal Center's traffic flow has been modified to minimize contact between staff, contractors and visitors. Upon arrival, please follow signage at the main "rotunda" to the office for your appointment. When finished, follow signage to the designated exit while maintaining social distancing.

One restroom on the first floor will be designated for *public handwashing-only* at the Gorham Municipal Center during this initial stage of reopening.

To expedite motor vehicle registration appointments, visit <https://www.gorham-me.org/town-clerk/pages/motor-vehicle-registration#anchor> **Motor Vehicle Registration Paperwork** for a list of information to bring with you.

May 15th tax payments are interest free to June 15, 2020. Payments can be:

1. Paid in-person with an appointment. Go to <https://gorham.youcanbook.me/>, or call 222-1600 to request an appointment.
2. Placed in the Book Drop at Baxter Memorial Library (71 South Street).
3. Sent via U.S. Mail to Town of Gorham, Attention Tax Collector.
4. Credit Card payment via Maine PayPort Service at <https://epayment.informe.org/payportonline/welcome>, or over the phone by calling the Town Clerk's Office at 222-1670 (fees apply).

The Governor extended the deadline to apply for certain tax exemptions. To learn more, go to <https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-extends-states-property-tax-exemption-deadline-2020-04-01>. Please call the Assessing Office at 222-1603, or the Cumberland County Regional Assessing Office at 207-699-2475 for assistance.

Recreation Office and Facilities

The Recreation Office will reopen by appointment only. All outdoor facilities will open June 1st providing social distancing requirements are followed. Go to <https://gorhamrec.youcanbook.me/> or call 222-1630 to request an appointment. Face coverings must be worn inside by members of the public, vendors and staff. Upon arrival at the Municipal Center, follow the signage at the recreation one-way entrance to the office. Please follow social distancing markers when in line and observe the policy of no more than two members of the public inside the Recreation Office at a time. When finished, follow signage to the one-way exit. The recreation one-way entrance may only be used as an exit for ADA accessibility needs and emergencies.

Summer Camps will be offered and are currently in the planning phase. No one camp will have more than 50 people including staff. Temperatures will be taken and all programs will follow an extensive daily checklist per CDC guidelines.

Baxter Memorial Library

The Library will offer curbside pickup service, which can be requested as follows:

1. Request your items through Minerva by visiting <https://minerva.maine.edu/>.
2. Wait for a confirmation email or text that your items are available for pickup.
3. Once confirmation is received, schedule your curbside time slot at <https://baxterlibrary.youcanbook.me/>.
4. Park in one of the three spots reserved for curbside outside of the Library's main entrance, and call 222-1190 when you have arrived – your items will be brought to you.

Curbside service is not required to pick up items – it is a service that the Library will offer for patrons who do not want to wait in line or would rather not enter the library. The library will allow up to five members of the public inside the building at a time; face coverings are required. Upon arrival, enter through the designated door on the right. Please follow the one-way aisle circulation posted inside. When finished, exit through the designated door while maintaining social distancing. Programming will continue to be held online.

Public Safety

Both the Fire and Police Station lobbies at 270 Main Street are now open. Face coverings are required and no more than two members of the public are allowed inside either lobby at a time. Please maintain social distancing. Please call 222-1660 for assistance with non-emergency inquiries.

Public Works

Currently, Public Works staff are meeting with the public outside as needed. Changes are being made to allow minor access to the lobby at a later date. Please call 892-9062 for assistance.

The primary concern is for the safety and health of Gorham citizens and employees during the changing aspects of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Town wants to thank community members for their understanding and patience during this time.

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