

# Guidance to Cape & Islands Seasonal Community

## **Information for Members of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket's Seasonal Community:**

*Updated as of May 1, 2020 - [Effective through May 18, 2020](#)*

Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket are small year-round communities whose residents appreciate, welcome, and depend upon you, our seasonal residents, non-resident homeowners, seasonal workforce, and visitors.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and the upcoming summer season, we all understand the desire to return to visit, work, or live on Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. So far, we have been successful in limiting the extent of the impact of COVID-19 on our relatively isolated communities by implementing early and vigilant social distancing measures per the guidance of the public health officials.

However, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket remain highly vulnerable to a major surge in new cases due to the highly contagious and insidious nature of this disease and the seasonal nature of our communities that creates an influx in population in the warmer months.

**If you are planning to relocate or travel to Cape Cod or the Islands, please help us all to remain safe and healthy by being aware of the following information and taking the precautionary measures outlined below by public health officials.**

- Please consider postponing any non-essential travel.
- If you must travel here, please be aware that [Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker has issued guidance instructing all travelers arriving in Massachusetts to self-quarantine for 14 days.](#)
- In addition, individuals are instructed not to travel to Massachusetts if they are displaying symptoms. We ask that you refrain from traveling to the Cape and Islands even from within Massachusetts if you are displaying symptoms.
- If you must come to the Cape and Islands:
  - Bring all necessary food and supplies with you to enable the 14 day quarantine, including prescriptions, cleaning supplies, personal health items and personal protective equipment.
  - If exhibiting flu-like symptoms or experiencing respiratory illness during or after quarantine, do not go to work. Contact the local healthcare provider in your area for instructions on accessing care.
  - Follow advisories on transportation, especially guidelines if you are traveling by ferry or air.

- The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has:
  - Issued a stay at home advisory
  - Advised that you protect yourself and others with a face covering/mask
  - Advised that individuals practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from others
- All businesses and organizations that do not provide “COVID-19 Essential Services” have closed their physical workspaces to workers and customers until May 18.
- Gatherings of 10 or more people are prohibited until May 18.
- Hotels, short term residential rentals, and other short term lodgings are not open for leisure accommodations.
- Be aware that many states have different guidance and restrictions related to COVID-19. For information regarding Massachusetts COVID-19 response, please visit: [mass.gov/covid19](https://www.mass.gov/covid19)

Please recognize that many of the amenities you are used to enjoying in our communities are closed during this time.

Because we know you love the Cape and the Islands, please support local organizations to aid individuals and families in our region.

With your help, and all of us working together, Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket can recover from this virus and these challenging economic times. We look forward to welcoming you back. Thank you for supporting this place that we all love by respecting this guidance.



**Bill Keating**  
U.S. Representative  
9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

**Julian Cyr**  
State Senator  
Cape and Islands District

**Timothy R. Whelan**  
State Representative  
1<sup>st</sup> Barnstable District

**William L. Crocker, Jr.**  
State Representative  
2<sup>nd</sup> Barnstable District

**David T. Vieira**  
State Representative  
3<sup>rd</sup> Barnstable District

**Sarah K. Peake**  
State Representative  
4<sup>th</sup> Barnstable District

**Randy Hunt**  
State Representative  
5<sup>th</sup> Barnstable District

**Dylan A. Fernandes**  
State Representative  
Barnstable, Dukes, and Nantucket District