Advisory #74

Monday, May 25, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced that there were 7,594 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County. This represents an increase of 35 from yesterday’s count of 7,559. **As of this afternoon the Town’s total number of confirmed positive cases remains at 85.** Of the Town’s total number of confirmed positive cases, 46 are from one facility. Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

These graphs are a visual companion to the numbers that we have been reporting each day.
The Boneyard Dog Park has reopened with several restrictions that are outlined in the attached notice. Non-compliance and/or the resurgence of COVID-19 may require the Town of Kingston or the Friends of Kingston Dogs to close the park. These restrictions will be in place until further communication is provided. This notice will also be conspicuously posted at the park.

As a reminder, Grays Beach and Grays Beach Park are closed until further notice. We recognize that with warmer weather upon us many residents wish to go to the beach and utilize the park’s resources. The reopening task force is currently working with Recreation Director Sue Woodworth on a plan to reopen Grays Beach Park and we hope to be able to do so in the very near future. We ask for your continued patience as we work to safely and responsibly reopen the Town of Kingston.

In addition to releasing its reopening plan for the Commonwealth (www.mass.gov/reopening), the Baker-Polito Administration has issued a “Safer-at-Home Advisory” which replaces the previous recommendations made in its “Stay-at-Home Advisory.” In an effort to reopen while still fighting COVID-19, the following recommendations are listed in the “Safer-at-Home Advisory”:

- People over the age of 65 and people who have underlying health conditions – those who are high risk for COVID-19 – should continue to stay home except for essential errands such as going to the grocery store and attending healthcare needs.

- All residents are advised to leave home only for healthcare, worship, permitted work, shopping and outdoor activities.

- When going to the pharmacy, ask if you can fill your prescriptions for 90 days if possible; for some medications this is not allowed. If you are high-risk, try to use a mail-order service.

- Don’t participate in close contact activities such as pick-up sports games.
- All residents are **REQUIRED** to cover their face when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public.

- Parents should limit play dates for children.

- Refrain from visiting nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, or other residential care settings.

- All residents are advised to wash their hands frequently and for at least 20 seconds with soapy water.

- All residents are advised to vigilantly monitor symptoms and stay home if they feel sick.

- Use remote modes of communication like phone or video chat instead of visiting friends or family who are high risk for COVID-19.

Finally, a big thank you to Kingston’s Memorial Day Parade Committee. Despite the many challenges posed by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, committee members John Bartlett, Jeanne Coleman, and Alexander Yukna, along with Priscilla Brackett of Kingston’s Veterans Services Department, organized a very moving ceremony to remember fallen members of the armed services. The ceremony will be rebroadcast on Kingston’s Government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42) in the coming days.

Thank you for your continued efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19,

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen
BONEYARD DOG PARK RE-OPENING PLAN
Town of Kingston, MA
May 2020

The Boneyard Dog Park will re-open on May 25, 2020 at 8:00am with several restrictions.

Non-compliance with these restrictions and/or the resurgence of COVID-19 may require the Town or the Friends of Kingston Dogs to close the park. These restrictions will be in place as long as the Town of Kingston feels they are necessary and until a follow-up communication is provided.

Opening Restrictions:

1. The Boneyard Dog Park will be open to Kingston Residents ONLY at this time. Park users must wear their Town of Kingston-issued Resident Park Access License on their person at ALL times. Failure to wear the PAL while in the park will result in an immediate order to leave the park. If you need a PAL, please visit the Town of Kingston Clerk’s Office when it is opened by the Town.

2. All park visitors are required to follow CDC guidelines and Massachusetts guidelines to protect themselves and others. Wash hands thoroughly and frequently, practice coughing and sneezing etiquette and avoiding touching your face and nose.

3. Visitors must wear a cloth face covering their nose and mouth at all times when on Boneyard property (in the parking lot and inside the park).
4. People should maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others at all times. No congregating in groups and no unnecessary physical contact is allowed.

5. According to the MA Guidelines, “all visitors of dog parks should maintain enough control over their pets via leash or voice control to comply with social distancing guidelines and site-specific rules and regulations.” We do not allow dogs inside the park on a leash. You must be able to have voice control over your dog at all times. If not, you must leave the park.

6. No toys or balls or any kind will be allowed in the park. Do not bring toys or balls for your dog to play with in the park.

7. While poop bags will be provided per normal, NO trash cans or poop receptacles will be in the park. ALL trash and poop must be taken with you when you leave the park. If the park is not kept orderly and clean, the Town and FOKD reserves the right to close the park at any time to ensure compliance. Please note that there are several bag stations around the park and these will be stocked on a weekly basis only. Please plan to bring your own bags, if necessary.

8. Water fountains will be closed and the water will not be flowing. Please bring your own water bowl and water and restrict its use to only your dog. It is important to keep your dog hydrated.

9. Occupancy in each area of the dog park (small dog and large dog) will be limited to 5 dogs in the small dog area and 15 dogs in the large dog area.*

10. A maximum of 15 cars will be allowed in the parking lot at any one time. If the main lot is full, please do NOT park on the street or any adjacent area. Cars not in defined lots are subject to parking fines. If the lot is full, please return at another time to enjoy the park.*

11. Park visitors are asked to avoid the park if they or their dog are sick.

As always, the standard Boneyard Dog Park rules posted at the park are in effect unless superseded by the COVID-19 specific rules above.

*These restrictions will be self-policing by park users but please understand that the Town or the Friends of Kingston Dogs reserves the right to close the park for consistent violation of these occupancy restrictions.