

## Office of Emergency Management



### City of Bayonne, NJ

---

## STATE OF EMERGENCY – COVID-19

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (v3 4/26/20)

#### **Q- I THINK I NEED TO BE TESTED FOR COVID-19, WHAT SHOULD I DO?**

A – If you have a cough or shortness of breath accompanied by a fever, call your physician or Hudson County Regional Testing Center at **201-388-1097** or **646-862-1161**. **THIS IS A FREE TESTING SITE AND DOES NOT REQUIRE A DOCTOR'S VISIT.** You will be asked to discuss your symptoms and you **MUST** be pre-screened in order to be tested on site. An appointment must be made to be tested. Your drive-thru screening takes place in your vehicle. If needed, additional tests will be performed in a specially designated area. The Testing Center operates from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Only symptomatic people are being tested at this site.

#### **Q- HOW CAN I BE TESTED AT THE BAYONNE MEDICAL CENTER TESTING SITE?**

A- The BMC is conducting DRIVE-THRU testing for patients of all doctors in Bayonne, each weekday at Veterans Stadium (foot of W 25<sup>th</sup> Street). This testing site is by appointment only. All Bayonne physicians have received instructions on how to schedule their patients for an appointment at this site. It is important to note that having a prescription for a test with no appointment will not get you tested, as you **MUST** have an appointment. **Only your doctor can schedule your appointment for this site.** Only symptomatic people are being tested at this site.

#### **Q- WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I CANNOT GET TESTED?**

A- If you have the symptoms of a cough and shortness of breath accompanied by a fever, **you should assume that you are POSITIVE.** The results of a test will NOT change action plans given to you by your doctor. **IMMEDIATELY PRACTICE SELF-ISOLATION** and contact your doctor. You should stay home but if you have difficulty breathing – **CALL 9-1-1** immediately.

#### **Q- I RECOVERED FROM COVID-19, CAN I BE OF HELP?**

A- Yes. The BMC is asking for people that have recovered from the Coronavirus to take part in antibody testing. Please contact the BMC at [covidplasmabayonne@carepointhealth.org](mailto:covidplasmabayonne@carepointhealth.org) or by calling 201-274-4644. BMC advises that these volunteers are SAVING LIVES!

#### **Q- WHAT CAN I DO TO PROTECT MYSELF?**

A- Go to the [cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov) or [covid19.nj.gov](http://covid19.nj.gov) websites for specific, detailed information. You may also call the NJ Hotline 2-1-1. **STAY HOME** as much as possible. **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE** from others if you **MUST** leave your home. **WASH** your hands often (at least 20 seconds with soap and water is recommended). **COVER** your cough. ***Wear a mask when you enter businesses.*** Exercise caution and good judgement when going out for any reason.

#### **Q – I NEED TO GO TO THE SUPERMARKET. HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF?**

**A- You MUST wear a mask anytime you are in a supermarket.** It is essential to maintain a safe distance from other shoppers, refrain from touching your face. Read and comply with recommended signage regarding one-way aisles and spacing tape on floors at checkout lines. Use store supplied wipes, or bring your own to wipe handles of shopping carts. Use good judgment even if others aren't. Be cautious about handling money, bring and use a Q-Tip swab. when touching credit card keypads instead of your fingers. **CLEAN YOUR HANDS** after touching any items that are from outside your home. Practice diligent hand-washing protocol once you are home.

***We all need to use common sense when we venture out of the house. Regardless of what level of social distancing is being enforced in a particular store, it is up to us as individuals to decide whether we feel safe shopping there and it is up to us as individuals to keep or distance from others. Remember, though, that "social distancing" is a new thing for everybody and it is easy to forget to apply these principles when we are out and about because "social distancing" is such a new phenomenon.***

**Q- I SEE SOME PEOPLE WEARING MASKS AND OTHERS NOT. WHAT'S THE RULE?**

**A- There is NO directive that requires you to wear a mask outdoors.** The State of NJ and the City of Bayonne have NOT placed a requirement to wear masks, **other than when you are shopping indoors.** It is also recommended that you DO NOT wear a mask when you are the operator and sole-occupant of a motor-vehicle.

**Q- I SEE PEOPLE EXERCISING OUTSIDE, SHOULD I BE CONCERNED?**

**A-** Because exercise is important, especially during this isolation, Bayonne parks will remain open for passive use, however ALL playgrounds remain closed. It's okay to walk or go for a run. You will need to keep social distance from non-household members. Organized sports such as football, soccer games, basketball are prohibited for the duration of this situation.

**Q- WHY WASN'T MY GARBAGE PICKED UP?**

**A-** Garbage/Recycling remain on a regular schedule. Your trash or recyclables MUST be put out the night before a regularly scheduled pickup because the pickups may occur as early as 3 a.m. on scheduled days. This is due to earlier than usual pickups by the garbage/recycling companies employing a staggered staff schedule to lessen personal interaction by their employees. Also, recycling pick-up has been put on an ALTERNATING schedule. Each week you will alternate the type of recycling material that you put out for pick up. Paper/Cardboard are one type and glass/plastic/cans are another type. **For the week beginning April 27th, on your recycling pick up day, only put out cardboard/paper.** For the week beginning May 4<sup>th</sup>, on your recycling pick up day, only put out glass/plastic/cans.

**Q- WILL THE STREETS BE CLEANED SOON?**

**A-** Department of Public Works is maintaining the normal street sweeping schedule. Although numerous parking regulations have been suspended until further notice we ask that you PLEASE MOVE YOUR CAR to allow the street sweepers to clean on their scheduled days. Fees or fines for parking meters, street sweepers regulations, and pay lots are SUSPENDED until further notice. Residential Zone requirements are all suspended. You are allowed to park in any Bayonne Public School lot for the duration of this emergency. **DO NOT LITTER! NEVER THROW MASKS or GLOVES ON THE GROUND. Please do your part in keeping us clean and safe!**

**Q- HOW CAN I HELP OR DONATE TO PEOPLE IN NEED DURING THIS CRISIS?**

**A-** "**BAYONNE FOR BAYONNE**" is collecting monetary donations for Bayonne residents that are negatively impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. The Bayonne Economic Opportunity Foundation has set up the tax-deductible way for you to donate. Please go to [www.beof.org](http://www.beof.org) or call 201-437-7222

**Q – HOW DOES BAYONNE CALCULATE DAILY COVID-19 STATISTICS**

**A-** Each day we publish the number of Bayonne residents who are currently positive for COVID-19. We subtract those who have recovered and are no longer required to be reported. Mayor Davis wants us all to focus on the things we can control to slow the spread of the virus. There are various internet sites that provide detailed statistics regarding COVID-19 in New Jersey.

**Q- WHEN DO YOU PUBLISH INFORMATION THAT WE NEED TO KNOW?**

A- Bayonne OEM provides updates each evening on its Facebook page, Twitter, and the City of Bayonne website. OEM also publishes statistics each Wednesday morning on their social media pages. Please LIKE or FOLLOW this page and make sure you look at the date of the update, so you are seeing the latest information. Although the update may look similar to the previous ones, the information is different each day. Mayor Davis also produces a video message to residents twice a week. The Mayor shares these videos on Wednesday and Saturday each week.