Hope & Kindness are not cancelled…be strong and stay healthy.

- We are open to the public as of Monday, May 18, 2020 with social distancing and other changes. Please be patient.
- Town Office Closing at Noon on Fridays for cleaning, paperwork & reports.
- Out-dated Vehicle Registrations are due by June 12, 2020.

In consideration of the safety of the vulnerable populations within our community, we encourage people to use on-line services for renewal of registrations (car, trailer, boat, ATV), pay taxes, get fishing licenses, etc. links can be found through our town website www.harrisonmaine.org.

Stay strong Friendly Village, take care of yourself, wash your hands and stay home! We will be putting this all behind us before we know it.

Maine Fun Facts: Acadia National Park is one of the most visited U.S. National Parks, with over 2 million annual visitors. The Park was first established and opened in 1916.

If you have town related business, or information on events you would like included in the update, please email the information to newsletters@harrisonmaine.org.

From the Desk of the Town Manager ~ Tim Pellerin

Dear Citizens:

Welcome back! We are open for business as of Monday, May 18, 2020 after being closed since mid-March! As we re-open in these unprecedented times, we are opening with some new changes:

1. The Public Entrance will now be the Meeting room door and the exit is the old entrance.

   Maintain Social Distancing until a position at the counter opens. Please have all paperwork that is required for transactions (see Town Clerk Section and website to be sure).

   Notice there is plexi-glass up in the clerk’s office to protect clerks. The clerks are also be using baskets to handle paperwork.

2. Masks or face coverings are required to protect employees. If you cannot wear a face-covering or mask you will have to call and we will schedule an appointed time to do your transactions.

3. Code Enforcement business (permits/inspections) will be done by appointment. They will be conducting business in the meeting room at a designated table not in the Administrative Offices and only by appointment. If you do not make an appointment and wait in line they will do their best to accommodate you but they could be on an inspection or on the phone or otherwise unable to help at that exact moment.

4. We will be asking you to sign-in with your Name, phone number and time in the event that someone becomes ill and we need to do social tracing.

5. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:00 am to 10:00 am we are reserving for citizens that are 65 or older. Please allow our vulnerable citizens this time to complete their transactions.

6. We will be closing on Friday afternoons at noon if possible for cleaning, paperwork and reports. Monday through Thursday hours are 8:00 pm to 4:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am to noon.
Last but not least, as we begin to open with this process and to serve you, we ask you for your patience and to respect our policies for the safety of other citizens and our employees. We expect it to be quite busy when we first open so if you call and are unable to get through please know that we are doing our best and will return calls as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions, concerns or problems please contact us.

- It is important for all of you to remain calm, not panic and follow State & Federal guidelines. Please take a moment and be sure to check on your neighbors and friends and watch out for each other. If you know someone who needs help or are not sure how to help them, please call us for guidance and/or assistance. We know that these are uncertain times and if you have any questions or concerns please contact us.

- Let’s all be respectful and courteous to each other. Things will get better. Please stay safe. We will get through this as a Town and a family.

The Town Meeting has been changed to **July 14, 2020**. It is by secret ballot voting from 8 am to 8 pm. Please consider getting Absentee Ballots.

- **We are having a problem with dog owners allowing their pets to defecate on Main Street and in Crystal Lake Park.** Please be respectful and clean up after your pets. We will be enforcing this with fines up to $250 according to our Dog Ordinance (see on-line). We do not want to have install cameras and/or have to close the park to dogs so please pick up after your pets. Thank you.

- We are aware that some people are having trouble with our online Mooring Application and we are working to correct the problem. We find if you save it to your computer before attaching it to email it works better. You can also call the Harbor Master, Gary Pagel.

Special Select Board Meeting – June 2, 2020 at 10 am at Community Room and virtually on-line or call in. Our regular Select Board Meeting will still be June 11, 2020.

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**
https://www.gotomeet.me/TownofHarrison/select-board

**You can also dial in using your phone.**
United States (Toll Free): **1 866 899 4679**
United States: +1 (669) 224-3319

Access Code: 195-619-517

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:
https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/195619517

Thank you for your continued support and have a good weekend.

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**From the Town Clerk ~**

**REMINDER!**
If you have a vehicle you purchased while the town office was closed now is the time to come in and get it registered. Please do not wait until the last minute. **The deadline for registering your new-to-you vehicle, in Harrison, is June 12th.**

We are using the **meeting room door** as our entrance for the public. **This is not the door most are used to using so please pay attention to signage.** We ask everyone to please follow the markings on the floor to safeguard safe distancing for everyone and to wear a face covering when entering the building. If the staff becomes ill we won’t be open to help anyone. If you cannot wear a mask due to a health condition, please call us at 583-2241 ext. 2 and we will make arrangements with you.

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The clerk’s office is very busy. Please make sure you have all the required paperwork with you to do your business.

- **Car registrations need proof of insurance and mileage.** We will not be able to call your insurance company and get that information for you, please plan ahead.
- **Anything new to you requires a bill of sale, title, proof of insurance, and mileage.**
- **New from dealer requires bill of sale, window sticker, blue title application, proof of insurance, & mileage.**
- For a complete list of what you need for most registrations, please go to our website and look under the Announcement section for Re-opening the town office and what you need to know.

**SPECIAL NOTICE:** The Clerk’s office will close on Friday afternoons at noon for cleaning and reporting.

**VOTE HEALTHY – VOTE ABSENTEE!**

* This is the first-year town meeting is by secret ballot. There are 31 questions plus candidate seats to vote on. This can take time. Voting from the comfort of your recliner, on your schedule, lets you take as long as you need.

* There will also be a school ballot, a State candidate ballot and a referendum ballot.

* For your safety and the safety of all the election workers you can still vote and have your vote count with no health worries.

* It’s easy to receive an absentee ballot. [Order online here](#) or call the town office at 583-2241 ext. 2 or 6 and we will mail the ballot to you.

Please stay tuned to the newsletter for updates and/or visit our website for updates as we have them. We are working hard to keep our information on our website current and keep you up to date on what is happening here in Harrison.

**THE CODE OFFICE**

Anyone needing assistance from the code or assessing office is required to call and set up an appointment. The number is 583-0923. If you don’t have an appointment you will need to wait in line to reach the clerk’s counter in order to get assistance and a code officer may not be available.

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**Fire & Rescue Responses ~**

- **Emergency - 911** – **Non-Emergency Sheriff Dept. - 893-2810**

HARRISON FIRE/RESCUE CALL RESPONSES

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**From the Transfer Station ~**

The Transfer Station is still open with regular hours but please observe social distancing and do not enter the buildings. This is for the safety and protection of our employees and the public.

Spring weather is here and we are looking to spruce up some areas on town property. We are looking for perennial plants and shrubs anyone would like to donate. Spring is a good time to divide many plants and if anyone has some extras they would be willing to share please stop by the transfer station and let me know or email me at transferst@harrisonmaine.org. Spread the word!!!!
Harrison Rec Dept~ For more information contact Kayla at 583-2241 or klaird@harrisonmaine.org
Summer Rec will start June 22nd with the possibility of opening sooner. We have cancelled all field trips for the summer. Though field trips are cancelled, we will still have Rec on those days. We plan to make Tuesday’s a little extra special as we know how fun field trips are.

There will be no swimming lessons this year but they will be back next year!

Baseball and softball will be starting practices next week!. Though this is very exciting news, understand that there will be restrictions to ensure that we are following all guidelines from the CDC especially with social distancing and no more than 50 people at an event. For example, at some fields, parents may have to watch from their cars, thankfully our complexes are quite large and will be a bit easier to space families and fans out during games. There will also be no sharing of equipment such as helmets, gloves, batting gloves etc. Many players have their own equipment but for those that don’t, they will be assigned equipment for the season which will then need to be returned when the season has finished.

There will be no 5k Run by the Lake this year unfortunately.

RADR gates are open for those that enjoy walking the around the fields or just taking in the gorgeous views!

A reminder that if you are going to the park and using any playground equipment that you know that we are not sanitizing or cleaning that area.

Harrison Village Library ~

The Harrison Village Library will offer curb service beginning Monday, June 1. The building will remain closed to the public, but you may request items to be checked out to you and arrange a time for pickup in our parking lot. Our curb service will be available Monday and Wednesday from 1-7, Thursday from 11-5, and Saturday from 10-2, but given the fluid nature of things lately and our very small staff, our hours are subject to change. Any library materials you have been holding may be returned beginning Monday. We are not accepting donations of books, movies or magazines at this time. Please call or email for more information 583-2970 or kkramer@harrison.lib.me.us). Thank you for your understanding and support!

Recurring Events ~

HARRISON FOOD BANK – Tuesdays – 1:30pm to 6:30pm
Located at the Harrison Food Bank, Ronald G. St. John Community Center located at 176 Waterford Road in Harrison, mailing address: PO Box 112, Harrison, ME 04040 Telephone 207-647-3384

Upcoming Events ~

Lakeside Grange #63 Yard Sale is cancelled until further notice.

Harrison Historical Society Meeting and Program scheduled for Wednesday evening, June 3, 2020 that was going to be held at the Harrison Historical Society, has been cancelled.
Re-Opening Procedure (Opened May 18, 2020)

Public
- All public are to wear masks or face covering in the building until further notice.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:00 am to 10:00 am will be for reserved for our Citizens over 65 only.
- We will follow social distancing for all employee to employee and employee to public interactions including site visits and Code Enforcement inspections.
- Public entrance will now be located at the meeting room entrance. The main entrance will now become the public exit and employee only entrance. We are installing social distancing markers on the floor of the meeting room – Allowing only 6 customers in line at a time. (Facial coverings required for service.)
- No public will be allowed into Administrative office space without permission from the Town Manager.
- All public will sign in and be given a call notice card upon entering building for service.

Code Enforcement/Assessing:
- All business for Code Enforcement/Assessing will be either by Phone or by Appointment Only.