

5/2/2020

Hello Islanders,

As we look ahead to the opening of our summer season, we anticipate many challenges that we must navigate through during this public health crisis.

One of the only things we know with certainty is that this will be a very different season than we have ever experienced.

The Board of Overseers has increased meeting frequency to work on a timeline and protocols for the start of **public transportation**, with the potential opening of very limited access to associated public spaces. We will do this in tandem with, and adhering to, all Maine State mandates and the Maine CDC directives as Maine begins to relax guidelines to open its economy. We will meet weekly through May with an initial focus on keeping Bustins employees as safe as possible as we look at opening Bustins public transportation, which includes, but is not limited to: the Island Ferry (Lilly B), the Island Truck and the people and processes associated with those services. Several island committees are helping to facilitate the necessary changes as well. We are all hands on deck.

Maine Governor Mills' opening stages can be found here

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-presents-safe-gradual-plan-restart-maines-economy-2020-04-28>

Maine State Mandate through May 31st can be found here

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-extends-maines-stay-home-order-2020-04-30>

Currently, all public services, roads and buildings on the island remain in winter mode and are therefore deemed closed. The response that the Board has put out remains in place until *at least* the end of May and can be found at BIVC.net: http://bivc.net/docs/Seasonal/BI_Coronavirus_Response_2020-04-26.pdf

This is a constantly evolving situation, and we will flex and update as changes are mandated by the state.

There are many rapidly changing factors and considerations at play: from Brewers ability to open the boatyard and launch, availability of PPE for our captains and crew, to out-of-state employees arriving and then quarantining for 14 days per the State of Maine Mandate.

We will know more in the next few weeks as we solidify plans and will communicate changes as we move ahead. Thank you all for your understanding as we move through this process.

Stay safe, stay well.

The Bustins Island Board of Overseers,

-Tanya Sweatt, Chair
-Hank Rauch, Vice Chair
-Mandy Meyer
-Judy Hayes
-Craig Allard