



TOWN OF NARRAGANSETT

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JAMES R. TIERNEY
Town Manager
Commissioner of Public Safety

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, March 27, 2020

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The Town Council of the Town of Narragansett declared a state of emergency in the Town on March 16, 2020 to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and then issued a superseding declaration on March 25, 2020.

The Town Manager with direction from the Town Council is taking measures he deems necessary in order to protect public health and safety in response to the pandemic; and

Social distancing still remains the most effective and important tool available to combat the community spread of the pandemic.

Therefore, in furtherance of Department of Health directives and to prevent crowding at retail and grocery stores, the following emergency measures were enacted by the State of Rhode Island, thus requiring compliance by all local merchants.

Retail and Grocers must:

- Allow no more than 20% of stated fire capacity in the store at a time, not including employees;
- Require staff to count the number of customers entering and exiting the store and enforce limits;
- Clearly mark 6' spacing in lines and other high-traffic areas. Stores should consider posting signage or using ropes to direct customers and to limit bottlenecks/encourage flow in high-density areas of stores;
- Designate employees to monitor social distancing and assist customers;
- Maximize space between customers and employees at checkout;
- Designate employee(s) to ensure the cleaning guidelines set by the CDC are followed;
- Discontinue self-serve foods and product sampling; and
- Offer exclusive hours for those in high-risk populations, including seniors, where stores will restrict entrance to maintain 10% of fire capacity.

Larger grocery stores and retailers with more than 25,000 square feet are encouraged to offer pickup and/or delivery options.