

**TOWN OF GLOCESTER, RHODE ISLAND  
DECLARATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY  
MARCH 16, 2020 (as amended)**

**WHEREAS**, the President of the United States and Governor of Rhode Island have declared a state of emergency due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the above-described disaster, the Gloucester Town Council has determined that there is an imminent threat of, or existing conditions have caused or will cause, widespread or severe injury, or loss of life, and public safety authorities will be unable to maintain public order or afford adequate protection for lives or property; and

**WHEREAS**, declaring a State of Emergency and imposing the restrictions and prohibitions ordered herein is necessary to maintain order and protect public health, safety, and welfare, and to secure property.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, pursuant to the authority vested in the Town Council under R.I.G.L. 30-15-12 & R.I.G.L. 30-15-13 as well as the Gloucester Town Charter, Sections C 1-3 & C 1-4:

**Section 1.** A **State of Emergency** is hereby declared within the jurisdiction of the Town of Gloucester.

**Section 2.** The emergency area covered by this state of emergency shall be the entire Town of Gloucester, Rhode Island. The state of emergency authorizes the Town Council President or his/her successor, in conjunction with the town's Town Police Chief/Public Safety Director and the Emergency Management Director, to "take whatever actions are deemed necessary to protect public health and safety," in accordance with the General Laws of Rhode Island and the Town of Gloucester Town Charter.

**Section 3.** The following restrictions and prohibitions are imposed:

A. With the exception of the Police Department and the transfer station in Gloucester, town-operated facilities will be closed to the public as of March 16, 2020, and all programs will be suspended. ***Employees will return to work on May 26, 2020 (employees with special circumstances may refer to the Finance) (amended 5/21/2020)*** and will limit the travel of town employees. Town staff will report to work for essential business and can continue to accept and process applications for permits, recordings and the like, according to the plans and provisions which will protect the health and safety of town employees, but residents have been asked to submit documents electronically, if possible. Residents with critical or time-sensitive business have been asked to call Town Hall at 401-568-6206 to make arrangements.

***When all safety protocols are in place the Town Hall staff shall start allowing the public to enter by appointment only. (June 4, 2020)***

**Section 4.** The Town of Gloucester Emergency Management Director and Police Chief are directed to activate the town's emergency operations center and all necessary town emergency response plans, policies, compacts, and agreements, to create and establish mobile support units, and to activate and deploy disaster response teams and disaster response workers to perform disaster response services.

**Section 5.** All town departments, agencies, or quasi-municipal agencies and boards and commissions performing executive functions shall cooperate fully with the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA), Gloucester Emergency Management Director and the Police Chief in all matters concerning this Declaration. Efforts to provide emergency disaster relief to the Town of Gloucester should be coordinated by and through the Gloucester Emergency Management Director and the Police Chief.


**Section 6.** Town officials are directed to cancel all town meetings, except for Town **Council and Boards/Commissions that receive and have pending applications (Planning Board, Zoning Board, & Historic District Commission, (these applications may be heard at the election of the applicant)(amended 5/7/2020); to allow the Board of Contracts & Purchases and the Parade Committee to hold virtual meetings; and postpone all public events during the period of this State of Emergency. **(Amended as of May 7, 2020)****

**Section 7.** We hereby order all Gloucester law enforcement officers, employees and all other emergency management personnel subject to our control to cooperate in the enforcement and implementation of the provisions of this Declaration, all applicable local ordinances, state and federal laws, and the Gloucester Emergency Operations Plan.

**Section 8.** We hereby order this Declaration: (a) to be distributed to the news media and other organizations calculated to bring its contents to the attention of the general public; (b) to be filed with the Town Clerk and (c) to be distributed to others as necessary to ensure proper implementation of this declaration.

**Section 9.** This Declaration shall take effect on March 17, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., and shall remain in effect until March 31st, 2020 and, further, with consent of the Town Council may be extended until **May 21 , 2020.**

**DECLARED** this the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020



George O. Steere, Jr., Town Council President  
Town of Gloucester, Rhode Island

**AMENDMENT TO ORDER:**

Effective 6/25/2020, in force until the expiration of above order:

To allow the Pinewood Pub, Hills Tavern, and Cady's Tavern (establishments with existing outdoor service areas), to have acoustic artists perform up to 4 hours between the hours of 2 pm and 8 pm according to State guidelines set forth in the Governors Phase 2 re opening. Restrictions must be strictly followed and adhered to.