

This is an important message from the Town of Marblehead and Board of Health.

As you all know by now, Massachusetts has begun the process of reopening and has relaxed the stay-at-home advisory. During the first phase of the state's reopening plan, a variety of businesses and industries will start to reopen with limitations and certain restrictions in place.

Now, a new safer-at-home advisory is in place which still suggests only leaving home for work, grocery shopping, health care, religious and outdoor activities.

Beginning next week, the second part of the state's Phase 1 portion of the reopening plan will go into effect. In Marblehead, this means that tennis courts, our dog park, and beaches will be open with restrictions. The Town will post signage in these areas to ensure all have an understanding of these restrictions which are consistent with the Governor's 4-phase reopening plan.

In short, in all of these outdoor spaces social distancing and wearing face coverings still applies when you can't keep 6 feet away from others. It is strongly encouraged that you wear a face covering when in these areas but, at the very least, be prepared with a face covering in case you need it.

At the dog park, you must be able to maintain control of your dog via leash or voice control to comply with social distancing; shared toys, water dishes and other materials are prohibited; and you should clean and sanitize your hands before and after your visit.

Tennis and pickleball courts will reopen and, again, people must keep social distance or wear masks when they are unable to comply with social distancing; only people from the same household are allowed on the court at one time for singles and doubles play; those waiting to play should wait outside the court's gate and until previous players leave the court.

Lastly, the beaches are also open but with restrictions. Gatherings larger than 10 people are prohibited; visitors are required to maintain social distancing and should maintain at least 12 feet minimum between towelings/beach blanket areas; and organized ball games are not allowed; and please carry in and out all trash and materials. Limited parking will be available at Devereux Beach starting on May 25th. The parking lot at Chandler Hovey will be reopened this weekend.

Please keep up to date on new developments at Marblehead.org and you can learn more about the state's reopening plan at mass.gov/reopening.