



VILLAGE OF SCARSDALE

Open Letter to Scarsdale Community

COVID-19 Update: June 26, 2020

Dear Scarsdale community,

In recognition of the extraordinary circumstances under which members of the Scarsdale High School Class of 2020 have completed their high school careers and are now entering the next phases of their lives as well-educated young adults, not only prepared to excel in college, but to also think critically and participate in collective action to make the world a better place for this and future generations, the Village Board and I have declared Friday, June 26, Scarsdale High School Class of 2020 Day.

Importantly, while not sharing the same senior experience as the graduating Classes preceding them may come as a disappointment to some, there is a certain honor and distinction that will forever differentiate the Class of 2020 from all others. Along with this exceptional status, memorialized though the [Village Board's proclamation](#), comes responsibility.

As the Class of 2020 is unique, I implore each graduate to lead distinguished higher education and professional careers, and to be active members in service to community, broadly defined so as to include any present or future community to which our graduating seniors become a member of. Take time to reflect on the historic events that have unfolded before you, recognize the embedded social, environmental, and economic challenges, and choose to be one who seeks to listen, understand, and help solve the urgent problems confronting this and future generations.

You are indeed distinguished, Class of 2020, and our hopes and aspirations for you to become successful adults have not been diminished because your senior experience is so profoundly different from that of prior Classes. To the contrary, we hope and believe that your collective experience provides inspiration to be the spark for many changes we hope to see in the world.

Now, with temperatures beginning to soar and additional recreational, dining, and shopping opportunities continuing to expand, I'll transition to a hot topic – one that's rather cool once you dive into it: The status of our Municipal Pool Complex and what members may expect when it opens on July 18.

Scarsdale Municipal Pool Complex Update

I am pleased to report that following a Zoom conference with Westchester County Department of Health officials on Friday of last week, the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Department has been able to determine many of the operating protocols governing the 2020 Pool Season, which begins on or before July 18, 2020. The information provided below is the best available at this time and staff are

reasonably confident that the operating protocols will both protect public health and ensure that Pool Members enjoy the 2020 Pool Season. The anticipated protocols will be modified, if needed, to support our public health and pool user experience goals.

All in all, I must say, this is great news for prospective members!

Take a look at some of the key highlights, and be sure to [purchase your membership](#) if you have not already done so:

- The pool occupancy limit is tentatively being set at 1,300 persons. Past attendance records suggest that, but for the busiest days, pool members should not experience difficulty gaining access to the facility.
- Social distancing will be required on facility grounds. Measures will be in-place to support and monitor this mandate.
- Occupancy within each pool will also be limited, with physical separation maintained by pool users. Approximately 320 bathers will be able to enjoy the pools at any fixed point in time, a number generally consistent with what we estimate to have observed in prior years.
- To help our Pool Members plan their day, staff are implementing an advance notification system whereby pool members will receive a series of email updates when the pool occupancy limit hits 50%, 75%, and 100% full. This will help members to avoid heading to the Pool Complex, only to find that it is full upon arrival. Keep in mind that we also have what is believed to be a reasonable occupancy limit, so we anticipate few 100% full messages. Should attendance be higher than prior years, we will make adjustments accordingly to provide all members with equitable opportunity to access the Pool Complex.
- The locker rooms and showers will be open, featuring enhanced facility sanitization protocols and certain social distancing adjustments, e.g., the potential for members to use every other shower.
- Diving will be permitted and swim lessons are planned.
- The concession stand will be open in accordance with applicable NY Forward guidance and associated public health mandates.

For more information, please contact the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department by phone at 914-722-1160 or by email using recreation@scarsdale.com

Phase III

Welcome to [Phase III](#) of [New York Forward](#), Scarsdale!

During this Phase, restaurants are authorized to provide indoor food service, subject to the [Food Services Guidelines for Employers and Employees](#).

In addition, personal care services, including such services as tattoo and piercing facilities, massage therapy, spas, cosmetology, nail specialty, UV and non-UV tanning, and waxing, are authorized to reopen, subject to the [Personal Care Services Guidelines for Employers and Employees](#).

Please note that guidance for hair-related personal care businesses and services is covered under a different document, the [Interim COVID-19 Guidance for Hair Salons and Barbershops](#).

[Phase IV](#) is on the horizon and will authorize higher education, low-risk outdoor arts & entertainment, low-risk indoor arts & entertainment, and media production, though no region has achieved the designation at this time.

Please dine and shop local; our local businesses really need your support. And, it's great to get out of the house and enjoy our glorious Village Center and other areas of commerce – see you in The 'Dale!

Walk the Walks, Talk the Talk – Annual Sidewalk Sale

As per Village Board authority granted on [June 23, 2020](#) pursuant to a collaborative planning effort involving the Village and Scarsdale merchants, the Annual Sidewalk Sale is being extended from three to seven days in duration and will, for the first time, include not only the Village Center, but also Heathcote Five Corners and the Golden Horseshoe.

Please come out to walk the walks and talk the talk with merchants, friends, and neighbors during the Annual Sidewalk Sale, which will be Monday, July 27, 2020, through Sunday, August 02, 2020, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM each day!

Of course, be sure to wear your face covering, as conditions dictate.

Travel Advisory

Governor Cuomo has issued [Executive Order 205 – Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving in New York](#), which stipulates that anyone arriving in New York following having traveled to a designated state with significant community spread must self-quarantine for a period of 14 days from the date of last travel within such state. The self-quarantine mandate applies to New York residents and non-residents, alike.

Because of the dynamic nature of the public health landscape, the [list of states](#) triggering the self-quarantine mandate will be updated weekly by the New York State Department of Health using the metrics specified in Executive Order 205. Presently, travel from any state exhibiting a seven-day rolling average of positive tests in excess of 10%, or where the number of positive cases exceeding 10 per 100,000 residents triggers the self-quarantine. As of June 25, the list of designated states includes:

Alabama
Arkansas

Arizona
Florida
North Carolina
South Carolina
Texas
Utah

For purposes of Executive Order 205, “travel” does not include any individual passing through a designated state for a limited duration, i.e., less than 24 hours, while on the way to another state. For example, neither stopping at a rest stop while driving through a designated state nor experiencing an airport layover of less than 24 hours in a designated state would trigger the self-quarantine mandate. There are also [exceptions for first responders and essential workers](#).

If you are planning to travel, please be sure to review the current list of designated states and adhere to any applicable self-quarantine mandate upon your return. Importantly, non-compliance is subject to a civil penalty of up to \$10,000. See the [Interim Guidance](#) for more information, including Self-quarantine Requirements.

In view of the potential tragedy unfolding in states where COVID-19 is now exhibiting significant community spread, and regardless of your travel history, please be mindful to continue practicing social distancing and always wear a face covering when unable to maintain at least six feet separation from others – doing so is mandatory under Governor Cuomo’s Executive Order.

My thoughts and prayers are with every community nationally that is experiencing significant community spread.

Please continue to undertake appropriate precautions to avoid a local COVID-19 resurgence.

Closing Remarks

We are a strong, caring community, cognizant of our moral and ethical responsibilities.

Thank you for trying to recognize, understand, and productively respond to the hurt, angst, and other emotions stirred by glimpses into the harsh reality of what lurks behind the veil that keeps racism and bias separated from our individual and collective awareness, both within our community and more broadly in society.

We are a community striving to achieve equity, justice, and fairness for all, with much work ahead, as will be discussed in greater detail at an upcoming Village Board meeting.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for honoring the continuing need to maintain social distancing, as well as for adhering to the legal obligation to wear a face covering when a minimum of six feet separation from others is not feasible.

In Scarsdale, we shape our destinies through contemplative, deliberate action, recognizing that the choices we make today will inform the consequences of tomorrow.

And finally, thank you for reading my Community Update letters. With Phase IV of NY Forward now approaching and our daily routines becoming, well, more routine with a return to some semblance of normalcy, please note that these letters are going to transition to some frequency less than weekly, yet to be determined.

It has been my pleasure to communicate with each of you through this medium during the COVID-19 crisis, and I look forward to continuing to inform and engage each of you through the mediums of your choice, as such opportunities present themselves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MS', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Marc Samwick
Mayor