



While the Library is CLOSED & all programs are postponed until further notice here are some useful Library Resources and Book Access information

Please note: Free Wi-fi is still available in the parking lot area 24/7, no password required

FOR KIDS:

Storyline Online – www.storylineonline.net
Picture books read by celebrities

Audible – stories.audible.com/start-listen
Free audiobooks for kids while schools are closed

We Are Teachers –
www.weareteachers.com/virtual-author-activities
The Big List of Children’s Authors Doing Online Read-Alouds and Activities

The Junior Library Guild – www.juniorlibraryguild.com
Now providing free access to their JLG Digital online reading platform, which gives students (Elementary, Middle, and High School levels) unlimited access to read books online from any device

The Sign Language Channel –
dpan.tv/programs/collection-vvevex5tooe
Kids Stories in American Sign Language from DPAN.TV

TIME for Kids (from TIME Magazine) –
www.timeforkids.com
Digital library is now free for the rest of the school year

LIKE US ON **facebook** Follow Raymond Village Library on Facebook for updates and more

FOR ALL AGES:

CloudLibrary – www.yourcloudlibrary.com
The cloudLibrary app is a resource you can use to borrow eBooks and audio books using your library card and is available for use on eReader devices (Kindle Fire, Nook, etc), tablets, phones, & computers.

digitalmainelibrary
The Digital Maine Library – library.digitalmaine.org
Provides every resident of Maine with access to online resources that include a collection of full text articles and abstracts from magazines, newspapers, journals and reference. It also provides students, business people, public library patrons, and higher education students and educators the ability to use online learning tools. Patrons need to create their own username and password for their Digital Maine Library accounts. Set-up at: libraries.maine.edu/mainedatabases/marvelauth/users/register.asp

FOR ADULTS:

Booklist - www.booklistonline.com
Booklist, American Library Association’s book review magazine, is providing free access to its online content

IF YOU NEED HELP OR ARE LOOKING FOR WAYS TO HELP HERE IS A LIST OF LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND RESOURCES:

- Neighbors helping Neighbors in Raymond** – The Town of Raymond staff, along with some dedicated volunteers, have been using a phone tree list and making phone calls to check in on families and individuals that might need help during this national health emergency. If you know of some elderly residents or a resident that might benefit from assistance- encourage them to call and get added to the phone tree. Residents of Raymond who want to be added to the phone tree or need help securing food or medications can call Cathy Gosselin, Raymond Health Officer at 756-2374 or email Cathy.Gosselin@raymondmaine.org.
- Cumberland County Food Security Council** – An organization that works to mitigate food insecurity. Their website contains several resources and links to local food pantries and programs, including Good Shepard Food Bank locations. www.ccfoodsecurity.org/covid-19-coronavirus-information.html.
- RSU# 14 Windham Raymond Backpack Program** – Any family may stop at one of the following two designated locations, twice a week to pick up assembled bags of easy to prepare foods.
Windham Middle School – Auxiliary Gym Lobby – Tuesday & Friday 2:00 – 4:30
Raymond Elementary School – Main Entrance – Tuesday & Friday 1:30 - 3:00
There are also other schools in the area that can give to go meals to any child (18 and under) on school days. Westbrook has several locations with meals available from 11am – 1pm. Any family who is unable to come to a pick up site may contact the school nutrition director at jreilly@rsu14.org or call 207-892-1800 x 2012 for more information.
- Mainers Together** – An organization that works to support community-based efforts. Here you can ask for help, volunteer or make a donation to the Mainers Together Fund. <https://mainerstogether.com>
- Maine Needs** – A grass-roots organization that works to provide individuals and families with basic needs such clothing, hygiene products and household items. To get involved with their efforts or ask for support visit <https://www.maineneeds.com>.
- 211** – Call 211 for assistance and guidance on how to obtain food, pay bills and other general assistance.
- Maine.gov/COVID19** – The State of Maine website has CDC and COVID-19 daily updates, resources, and a comprehensive review of Maine’s response to COVID-19.

REMINDER:
The Second Half of Property Tax Payments for 2019-2020 are Due April 30th

Credit or Debit Card payments can be made online at <https://raymond.androgov.com>.
Check or Cash payments can be made by placing the slip at the bottom of your tax bill in an envelope along with your payment and place in the drop box located at the front of the Town Office building.
If you would like a receipt, please also include a note requesting that a receipt be mailed to you.

If you are unable to pay by the due date contact the Town Office at 655-4742 x 124, and we will work with you to address your individual circumstances.

NOTICE REGARDING CERTAIN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS:

On March 15th 2020, Governor Janet Mills signed an Executive Order extending the April 1, 2020 deadline for certain property tax exemptions. Now, the deadline to apply for these exemptions will be 30 days after the termination of the declared emergency or the commitment date of the municipality.

WHAT THAT MEANS:
You still have time to get your applications for Homestead and Veterans Exemptions, BETE (Business Exempt Tax Equipment), and Solar and Wind Energy Equipment to the Town Office. Please mail completed applications to: 401 Webbs Mills Rd, Raymond ME 04071, fax to: 207-655-3024 or email to: Kaela.Gonzalez@RaymondMaine.org.
Although the deadline has been extended it would still be helpful to have applications submitted as soon as possible.

DID YOU KNOW?

Last summer, the Raymond Community Garden located near the Raymond Village Library donated 200 pounds of food to Maine families struggling with hunger.

TOWN OFFICE UPDATES AND INFORMATION
Current Hours: Tues 8:30am – 4:00pm • Wed 8:30am – 4:00pm • Fri 8:30am – 4:00pm
Please note: There will be limited staff to answer phones and assist with questions and online transactions. Town Office hours may have to be altered as needed. Please check www.raymondmaine.org to get latest information and hours of operation.

Town Office Staff Is Available to Assist:
Even though the Town Office is closed to the public, there is staff available Tues, Wed and Fri to help with questions and facilitate certain transactions. For a list of commonly performed transactions that would normally require a visit to the Town Office and how they can be done please visit: www.raymondmaine.org/content/town-office-transactions. Staff can help and direct residents with online transactions, including certain motor vehicles re-registrations, ATV & snowmobiles and boat registrations along with hunting and fishing licenses. Things that cannot be done online including birth, marriage and death certificates, along with dog licenses, may still be able to be performed. If you have any questions, please call 655-4742 x124.

FYI Regarding the Assessor:
Please be advised that the Town Assessor, Curt Lebel will still be conducting field work and making visits to properties who have pulled permits over the past year including remodels and new construction and checking on work that was incomplete last year. However, he will NOT be asking to come inside. He may ask questions but will practice CDC recommendations including social distancing. If you are not home at the time of his visit, he will leave a note. You may be asked to call the Town Office at 655-4742 x133 to answer questions.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

POSTPONED

The Annual Town Meeting, previously scheduled for June 2nd, 2020 has been postponed and will be rescheduled once the State of Maine Emergency Declaration has been lifted.

Outside Activities During Covid-19

The Raymond Recreation Dept. wants to make sure that you and your family are staying active during this time of social distancing. Below is a list of parks for use for hiking or simply to enjoy the beauty of the outdoors. Please continue following the CDC’s guidelines for slowing the spread of Covid-19.

Tassel Top
We have opened Tassel Top Park free of charge from 9:00am-7:15pm for trail use and walking along the shore. Please like Tassel Top Park on Facebook to stay current on the availability of the park as hours may change.

Loon Echo
Raymond Community Forest: A message from Loon Echo Land Trust, “Our trails and preserves will remain open to public access, free of charge, during this time. Please do consider using them as an escape, a respite, a place to rejuvenate mind, body, and spirit”. Visit loonecholandtrust.org for more info.

Morgan Meadows
Morgan Meadow Preserve, located in Raymond is a 1,072-acre property consisting of mixed forest land and significant wetland habitat. It represents one of the largest pieces of open-space in this region of southern Maine. A trail map can be found at: www.raymondmaine.org/community-resources/recreation/morgan-meadow

Keep safe during social distancing when in parks or on trails:
 • Follow CDC’s guidance on personal hygiene prior to heading to trails — wash hands, carry hand sanitizer, do not use trails if you have symptoms, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, etc.
 • Observe at all times CDC’s minimum recommended social distancing of six feet from other people. Practice it and know what it looks like. Keep it at all times.
 • Warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass to allow proper distance and step off trails to allow others to pass, keeping minimum recommended distances at all times. Signal your presence with your voice, bell or horn.
 • Note that trail and park users may find public restrooms closed — be prepared before you leave and time outings so that you are not dependent on public restrooms.
 • Bring a suitable trash bag. Leave no trash, take everything out to protect park workers