



City of Easthampton Situation Report

October 16, 2020

2020 Mayor's Toy Fund

During these unprecedented times, the Easthampton Mayor's Office is happy to announce they will once again be hosting the annual Toy Fund.

Any Easthampton child under the age of 12 is welcome to sign up. Requests must be received by **November 30, 2020**.

Children can be signed up through the following Google form:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=yWPoQTvQg06crXS8bKW8vPUHzUsrfNdAvMo4Ldf5pydUMFU0SDFQN0IKOVIIUURFSUVRV1VBSkk1TS4u>

Any questions, comments, or concerns can be answered by phone at 413-529-1400 ext. 143 or email at toyfund@easthamptonma.gov.

The 2020 Toy Fund Flyer is available [HERE](#).

Rental and Mortgage Assistance

Rental and Mortgage Assistance is still available to families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Baker-Polito administration announced an additional \$20 million in funding dedicated to helping low-income households pay their mortgage or rent.

More information on this funding is available [HERE](#).

There is no official deadline to apply for this funding. Residents in the Easthampton community are encouraged to reach out to Way Finders. Information is also posted online [HERE](#).

Change of Polling Location

At the October 14th meeting, City Council voted to move all voting precincts to Easthampton High School (70 Williston Avenue).

This change will be in effect until further notice.

This means for the November 4 State Election there will be no voting at White Brook Middle School.

For more information, please click [HERE](#).

50% Reduction in 2021 Permit Renewal Fees

The Easthampton Board of Health has agreed to lower Permit Renewal Fees by 50% in an effort to assist local businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Only the permits listed [HERE](#) are authorized to reduce their total permit fee by 50%.

Please Note: The reduction in permit renewal fees will expire on March 1, 2021 and does not apply to newly established businesses.

Free Meal Extension

The US Department of Agriculture has extended the free meal program through June 30, 2021.

This food is available at Easthampton High School or Maple School on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 10am to noon.

More information on this program is available [HERE](#).

City Meeting Calendar Week of October 19th to October 23rd

Monday, October 19, 2020	Tuesday, October 20, 2020	Wednesday, October 21, 2020	Thursday, October 22, 2020
Licensing Board – 5:00pm Zoom Link	Council on Aging – 11:00am Zoom Link	Easthampton City Arts – 5:00pm Zoom Link	Rules and Government Relations Committee – 6:00pm Zoom Link
Finance Subcommittee – 5:00pm Zoom Link	Economic Development and Industrial Commission – 4:00pm Zoom Link	Board of Public Works – 5:00pm Zoom Link	Affordable and Fair Housing – 6:00pm Zoom Link
Manhan Rail Trail Committee – 7:00pm Zoom Link	Community Relations Committee – 6:00pm Zoom Link	City Council – 6:00pm Zoom Link	
	Planning Board – 6:00pm Zoom Link		

Please note: All agendas and Zoom links are also uploaded to the city website at <https://easthamptonma.gov/agendas-minutes.html>.

Additional Resources

- **FAFSA Information Session**

If your child is attending college in the Fall of 2021, a FAFSA night is planned for Wednesday, October 21 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Sign up here:

<https://www.mefa.org/events/fafsa-day-ma-event>

The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) is now available for students attending college in the 2021-22 academic year. In this webinar, financial aid experts will go through a short presentation followed by a live Q/A session to get FREE help applying for financial aid for college. EHS School Counselors recommend that the FAFSA be completed before your child's first college deadline date. FAFSA also needs to be completed to qualify for the Community Foundation of Western Mass scholarship and the Easthampton Dollars for Scholars scholarships.

- **Public Health Dashboard**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health puts out daily reports to keep MA residents in the loop on public health metrics related to COVID-19. This includes positive case numbers, death rates, and testing capacities.

Please click [HERE](#) to see the dashboard for today, October 16th.