



CITY of NORTHAMPTON

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Dear Northampton Restaurants,

With warmer weather upon us and brighter days (fingers crossed) ahead of us, we are hopeful for a busy season! In light of decreasing COVID-19 case counts and increasing vaccination rates, Governor Baker has released a series of dates which will relax certain regulations. The most recent of these changes went into effect on Monday, May 10th. While these new standards ease many restrictions, there are many that remain in effect.

Changes to Restaurant Requirements effective May 10th

- **Indoor singing:** Now allowed. Must follow same guidelines as outdoor singing.
- **Condiments:** Restriction on self-serve condiments has been removed.
- **Utensils:** Pre-setting tables is now allowed.
- **Menus:** Restrictions removed.
- **Buzzers:** Restrictions removed.
- **Cleaning tables:** Requirement to clean tables and chairs between each setting is removed.
- **Same household:** Recommendation removed.
- **Valet:** Restrictions removed.
- **Cleaning:** Requirement to frequently clean high touch surfaces removed.
- **Cleaning logs:** Requirement removed.

Restaurant Requirements which remain the same (Non-exhaustive)

- **Face coverings:** Still required for staff and customers (even if vaccinated).
- **Table size:** Remains at 6 persons.
- **Bar seating:** Still allowed and still requires sufficient distancing/ Plexiglas barrier.
- **Seating Time:** Still limited to 90 minutes.
- **Alcohol:** Food required with first alcohol purchase on 5/10. Not required on 5/29.
- **Standing Consumption:** Food/ drinks must be consumed while seated. Will not change on 5/29
- **Northampton Orders:** All venues must continue to abide by [Northampton's Order Maintaining Limits on Performance Venues, Event Venues, and Gatherings.](#)

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Health Department at 413-587-1214.
Thank you all for your continued efforts to keep Northampton healthy, safe, and active!

Merridith A. O'Leary, R.S.
Public Health Director
City of Northampton