



Parks & Recreation Department

John Sherman, Director

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From: John Sherman, Director

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Re: Current Operations of the RWB Community Center

We have received numerous inquiries about using the Community Center, if we are open to the general public, and what in person programs are we currently offering. At the onset of the pandemic in March of 2020 the RWB Community Center closed to in person contacts; along with all other Town buildings, in accordance with the Governor's "Safer at Home" orders. At that time we put together a [Reopening Timeline](#) consisting of a 4 phased approach for a return to "normalcy". As of October 5, 2020, we moved into Phase 3 of this plan.

By entering Phase 3 we started a soft reopening of the RWB Community Center. We are moving ahead cautiously with a very limited number of in person programs at drastically reduced participation. In addition, we have had to also accommodate KAST (our after-school program) here at the community center. In an understandable effort to keep the risk of exposure at the schools to a minimum, the SAU has not allowed us to run this program at the schools, which is where it has always been. As of this writing the RWB Community Center is the only Hanover municipal building that has reopened to the public.

We will be continuing with our current schedule through the summer, which means for the time being we are unable to accommodate additional building use requests. For now, we want to concentrate on getting this transition right as there are many considerations to undertake such as staff and public safety, added cleaning as each space must be sanitized after use, and how COVID-19 transmission within the community ebbs and flows.

In August we will evaluate how our various safety measures have worked, survey current and potential participants, and check in with the Town Health Officer on the current trends of COVID-19 in the Upper Valley. As we continuously monitor the COVID-19 trends and rates of vaccinations we are hopeful that by the Fall of 2021 we can have a return to normalcy.

Be kind, Be patient, Be understanding.

This is all new territory, and it is quite the undertaking becoming familiar with and implementing all the current guidelines to keep everyone safe.

Connecting you to explore our community, enrich your life and expand your experiences.