

# Village of Kings Point Bulletin

December 2020

## Surge in COVID-19 Cases Worrisome

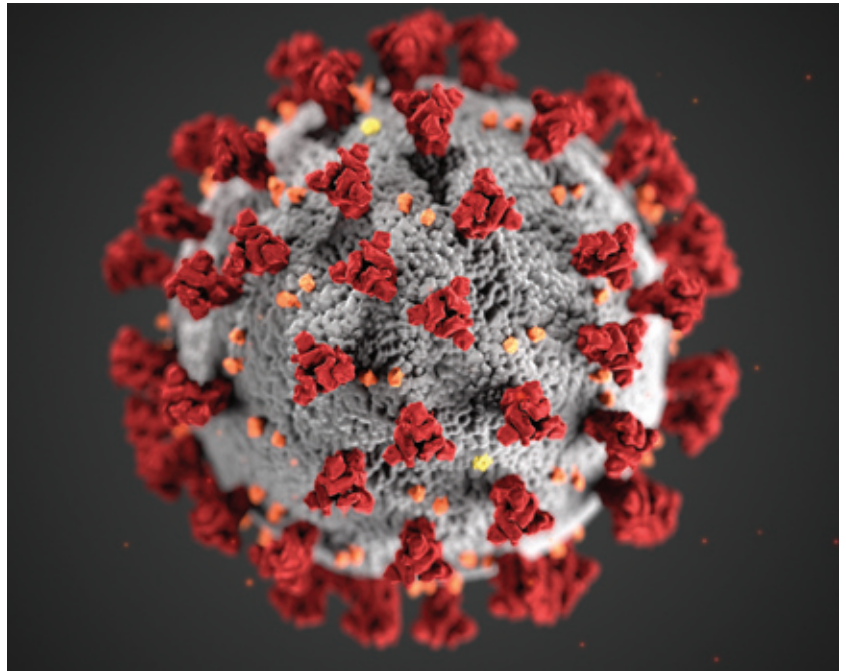
The Nassau County Department of Health has recently reported major increases in confirmed coronavirus cases in Kings Point. The news has caused great concern by village officials that the area could quickly become a red zone if residents don't immediately take action to flatten the upward curve by diligently following CDC guidelines.

COVID-19 is very dangerous, sometimes deadly, and can easily spread rapidly through a community and beyond. It was not long ago that New York lost 800 residents in a single day to the virus.

The uptick in Kings Point and throughout the Great Neck Peninsula is the direct result of a lack of mask wearing, a reluctance to practice social distancing and an excessive number of large gatherings. The public must work together and do everything in their power to stop the recent spread and get this localized virus outbreak under control.

In recent weeks, Governor Cuomo has been battling pockets of outbreaks, known as red zones, mainly caused by super-spreader events and public resistance to mask wearing and social distancing. Schools, businesses and institutions have been forced to shut down in those affected neighborhoods to stop the virus from spreading and minimize the death rate.

Kings Point residents need to be more diligent about compliance, which is imperative for the protection of loved ones, neighbors and the community at large. By our actions, we can prevent the village from becoming a red zone, so lives can be saved and businesses and institutions can remain open.



The pandemic has made it challenging in many ways, especially for families who have been forced to rethink ways to celebrate birthdays, weddings and other special occasions, without traveling and gathering in large groups. With the holiday season upon us, it is critical that residents remain vigilant, exercise good judgement and abide by state mandates and CDC guidelines, without exception.

Since March, actions by Kings Point residents and other New Yorkers helped to reduce the spread of coronavirus in the state to one of the lowest rates in the nation. The pandemic is now raging across the United States, where medical institutions and personnel are overwhelmed and record numbers of daily cases, hospitalizations and deaths and being reported. Now, it's more important than ever for the public to protect themselves and others against this deadly novel coronavirus pandemic.



# A Message from Mayor Michael C. Kalnick

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Kings Point Village has been keeping residents abreast of COVID-19 updates and other matters of importance to the community by sending occasional email messages, as that has proven to be the most effective method for disseminating timely information quickly. Village officials have gotten positive feedback from residents and encourage those who have not received the emails to visit the village website and complete a Contact Information Form to be added to the distribution list.

## TAKE THE KEYS & FOBS

Village of Kings Point police stress the importance of removing all keys and fobs each time you exit a vehicle to prevent car thieves from targeting, accessing and driving off with your property. Leaving a key or key fob behind in the car, even if it's in the glove box or hidden elsewhere, is inviting someone to commit a crime against you. Closing the windows, locking the doors and removing valuables from site are additional ways to safeguard the vehicle.

## WINTER TRASH PICKUP

If you haven't already done so, now is the time to arrange to have private roads, driveways and walkways kept clear of snow and ice to ensure conditions remain safe for trash pickup on designated days. Sanitation trucks cannot easily navigate icy surfaces and workers will be unable to collect the garbage if trash bins are not accessible.

## STOP SIGNS

When the pandemic led to stay at home directives by New York State this past summer, increased foot-travel along Kings Point roadways compelled the village to install stop signs on East Shore Road and Kings Point Road. The resulting increase in pedestrian safety and reduction in speeding in those areas, as well as positive feedback from the community, has prompted the village to install additional stop signs. Please be mindful of the speed limit and watch for walkers, joggers and cyclists as you traverse the roads in the village. When you come upon them, be sure to always honor the stop signs by coming to a full stop and looking both ways for oncoming traffic before proceeding.

## WALK SAFELY

Because it is not always easy for drivers to spot someone near the roadway, pedestrians are encouraged to increase their visibility, when the sun is low or darkness has set, by wearing clothing that is reflective or light in color. Kings Point provides residents with reflective vests, free of charge. Stop by village hall, with proof of residency, to pick up 2 per household.

Regardless of the time of day, always stay to the far side of the road and walk single file, facing oncoming traffic.

## SECURITY TIP

Whether you are staying home or going out of town, light timers should be installed and adjusted accordingly on both the inside and outside of residences for added security and to give the appearance that the property is occupied. There are many products on the market that can be easily installed and calibrated to turn the lights on and off automatically.

## Public Meetings

Kings Point Village Board of Trustees public meetings will be conducted via teleconferencing until further notice. Residents can go to the village website for call-in information. Minutes of the meetings will also be posted on the village website.

"What good is the warmth of summer, without the cold of winter, to give it sweetness."



— John Steinbeck



# Did You Know

- **Mid-19th Century:** English engineer George Cayley invented the seat belt to keep pilots inside their gliders.
- **1885:** American Edward J. Claghorn created the first patented seat belt to keep tourists safe in New York City taxis.
- **1950:** Almost every race-car driver used a seat belt to protect against serious internal injuries.
- **1955:** American Ford offered seat belts as options.
- **1958:** Swedish Saab first introduced seat belts as standard.
- **1958:** Nils Bohlin, a Swedish engineer hired by Volvo, invented the three-point seat belt, a breakthrough that led other car manufacturers to borrow the simple and effective design, which was estimate by Volvo to have saved more than 1 million lives by 2002.
- **1966:** Laws began calling for seat belts to be installed in American vehicles, although laws requiring passengers to wear them were long to follow.
- **1970:** The state of Victoria, Australia put the world's first seat belt law in place, requiring drivers and front seat passengers to wear seat belts.

## Safeguard Against COVID-19

Since the pandemic began, village officials have done everything in their power to protect public health and safety. Kings Point's police officers are standing by around-the-clock, well-trained in hygiene protocols and first-aid response procedures. Patrol cars are equipped with oxygen, automatic defibrillators and other supplies for administering first-aid during a health emergency. The Vigilant Fire Company is also on call to provide emergency ambulance services and medical assistance when needed.

Residents must also take steps to safeguard themselves:

- Wear a mask when going out in public.
- Stay 6 feet away from others.
- Wash hands regularly with soap & water or use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose & mouth.
- **Stay Informed**
- CDC's dedicated COVID-19 website:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>
- Nassau County Department of Health:  
<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov>



## Buckle Up Law EXPANDED

All passengers of a motor vehicle traveling in New York State, including taxis and ride-sharers, are now required to buckle up, even those occupying the back seat. The strengthening of the state's already existing seat belt laws to include occupants of the rear of the vehicle took effect on November 1 to help reduce automobile accident fatalities and casualties.

In 1984, according to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles, approximately 16 percent of individuals were already in the habit of buckling up when New York became the first state in the U.S. to pass a mandatory seat belt law. By 2008, the compliance rate was up to 89 percent.

While it is proven that the use of seat belts has made the roads safer and saved many lives, the New York State Traffic Safety Committee estimates that 30 percent of highway deaths in New York are occupants unrestrained by a seat belt. Safety experts believe buckling up when riding in the rear could prevent more than 60 percent of fatalities and serious injuries resulting from crashes.





## Village of Kings Point

32 Steppingstone Lane  
Kings Point, New York 11024  
(516) 504-1000

### Mayor

Michael C. Kalnick

### Board of Trustees

David Harounian, Deputy Mayor  
Sheldon Kwiat  
Hooshang Nematzadeh  
Kouros Torkan

### Village Clerk

Gomie Persaud

### Police Commissioner

George J. Banville

[VillageofKingsPoint.org](http://VillageofKingsPoint.org)

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# Expired Building Permits?

**The homeowner bears the responsibility** of closing out a building permit before the expiration date — not the contractor!

When building permits are taken out for improvement work or repairs done on a property, the homeowner must obtain a **physical** certificate of occupancy or completion from the building department to ensure the permit is closed out.

**Reoccurring annual fees** will accrue when a permit is not closed out, potentially becoming costly and causing difficulties when selling the property.

## Uncertain about open permits?

Call the Village of Kings Point Building Department without delay at (516) 504-1000.

## How Can We Reach You?

Emails and automated phone calls have proven to be the most effective ways to communicate timely or important information to the public. Residents who have not received messages from the village by either means are encouraged to sign up by calling Kings Point Village Hall at (516) 504-1000. An email request with your name, address and preferred contact information can also be sent to [info@villageofkingspoint.org](mailto:info@villageofkingspoint.org).

## Numbers to Note

**Kings Point Village Hall:** (516) 504-1000

**Kings Point Police Dept:** (516) 482-1000

**Fire / Alert Fire Co.:** (516) 487-7000

**Ambulance / Vigilant Fire Co.:** (516) 482-5000

**PSEG Long Island:** 1-(800) 490-0075  
[www.psegliny.com](http://www.psegliny.com)

**Gas / National Grid:** 1-(800) 490-0045

**Water Authority of Great Neck North:**

(516) 487-7973

(516) 482-0210 – Water Emergency / After Hours

[www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com](http://www.waterauthorityofgreatnecknorth.com)