

CITY OF EASTHAMPTON

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EASTHAMPTON COUNCIL ON AGING CONTINUES TEMPORARY PARTIAL CLOSURE TO PUBLIC

Easthampton, MA - Because Easthampton continues to experience a very high rate of COVID-19 cases, the Easthampton Council on Aging and Enrichment building will continue to be closed to the public for group activities and certain other services through February 2022. In addition, the Highland Valley Elder Services Grab and Go Meals distributed by COA volunteers and staff will not be available in Easthampton between January 19 and February 28 due to cold weather.

Staff will continue to provide services to individuals one-to-one by phone and online and will meet with residents in person for programs that require in-person service (SHINE and Fuel Assistance). Transportation and other services may be modified for safety. AARP free tax prep services will be provided by participants dropping off and picking up paperwork; call the COA to make an appointment. Special arrangements can be made for residents with limited mobility.

Please note that Veterans' paperwork should be brought to the black lock box at the Municipal Building at 50 Payson Avenue and that checks will be mailed.

Appropriate Covid precautions for both staff and COA participants, including better-fitting, high quality masks, more frequent testing, and improved ventilation are being implemented. If masks or other resources are needed, please contact us.

The Mayor's Office makes this decision with the Council on Aging (COA) in the interest of community and staff health. Contact the reception desk at 413-527-6151 and press 0 for more information.