

## Coast Guard: No new recruits coming in

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The Coast Guard is considering several different

options for an enhanced reconstitution effort after this situation subsides. Chief Warrant Officer

Timothy Tamargo said graduations have been taking place on Fridays but without families in attendance. Only personnel needed to carry out the ceremony are present, he said. "All the families and friends haven't been coming since early March," Tamargo said. "We use our live-stream to broadcast, so the family and friends still see their graduate complete boot camp."

Recruits live and normally sleep in close quarters in bunks in the squad bays.

"We've been able to employ social distancing where training allows," he said. "There are some parts of training where you can't do that, but in the general sense, we have expanded in squad bay setups to accommodate that."

Tamargo said graduation dates were accelerated for recruit companies currently in training with an expedited training schedule. Some Terminal Performance Objectives that must be met in boot camp are being accomplished but others may be done at a future date and location, he said.

Items not essential to training have been cut out in favor of other training

essentials handled in a more concise way, he said.

Within three weeks, TRACEN could be empty of training groups of recruits with all current recruits graduated from boot camp, according to Tamargo. Graduations are now taking place on Wednesdays. M-198 Company will graduate on April 8, N-198 on April 15 and O-198 on April 22.

Changes at the Coast Guard base include:

- The base is currently limited to mission essential personnel.

- The chaplains are still available by phone as needed and emergent appointments if necessary.

- The galley is only serving recruits.

- The Exchange is open to active duty, staff, and dependents from 0900-1500 Monday - Saturday and is closed on Sunday. Dependents should limit traffic on base to travel to/from the Exchange. Coast Guard leadership has made it a priority to keep the Cape May Exchange stocked and staffed.

- The Harborview is closed until further notice.

- Gym use is authorized for recruit training only.

- All MWR activities

have been canceled.

- The jetty is closed.

- MWR Cottages will not be rented for leisure until further notice.

- The Coast Guard Ball and Coast Guard Festival

have been canceled.

- All playgrounds in housing and off base, skate park and the on-base tennis court are closed.

- On base beach access is closed.

## Cape May, Cape May Point prohibit short-term rentals

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY—City Manager Jerry Inderwies issued an executive order Sunday, April 5, prohibiting all seasonal and/or short-term rentals in Cape May including hotels, motels and guest houses.

"In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic and to further protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens, residents and property owners of, and visitors to the city of Cape May and further pursuant to executive orders 107 and 108 issued by Gov. Murphy and administrative order 2020-8 issued by the state Director of Emergency Management, it is hereby ordered and decreed that all transient, seasonal and/or short term rental in the city of Cape May are hereby prohibited

effective 8 p.m., on April 5, 2020 and will remain in effect until 12:01 a.m. May 22, subject to modification or extension "in accordance with future developments and conditions."

Cape May Point issued an executive order on April 6 prohibiting the same rentals as Cape May Point, also effective until May 22.

The prohibition includes hotels, motels, guest houses and rentals of private homes whether by owner or owner's agent. The order notes persons violating the order or those aid or abet violations of the order are subject to arrest and prosecution as disorderly persons.

Inderwies said Cape May continues to have a number of second-home owners and out-of-towners present in the city.

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manage the volume of residents filing new claims or reopening existing claims.

He said the state waived the waiting period due to a time lag in the system.

"Benefits will be available as soon as you are approved," Testa said. "The state has also developed a centralized resource for workers to find opportunities with employers serving

on the front lines of the pandemic, thousands of jobs are currently available and can be found on the website: <https://jobs.covid19.nj.gov/>"

Simonsen said over 200,000 state residents have recently applied for unemployment compensation. He said the system was not meant to handle that number of claims and he believed the glitches would be corrected.

On a question of the county considering reopening in two to three weeks if a spike of COVID-19 cases do not occur, Testa said the danger of having Cape May County open would be persons from other counties would come here.

He said he wanted to make sure much, if not all, of the summer tourist season could be salvaged.

New Jersey Campground Owners Association Executive Director Joann DeVescio said she issued an order to campground to remain closed for vacations or recreational activities.

She said was receiving phone calls from medical professionals being moved

to various parts of the state to assist in hospitals and seeking campgrounds to park their recreational vehicles.

DeVescio said she was also hearing from medical personnel who can't go home because they have someone in their home with a compromised immune system and they need a place to park their camper. Simonsen said he could write a letter to the governor with her request.

A business owner said she talked with the agency that supplies her with J1 workers and was informed all her foreign workers for the season had been cancelled.

A participant said a Rutgers University study that stated the county would need 1,270 to 3,249 hospital beds to accommodate COVID-19 victims but Cape May County has only 242 hospital beds available.

Testa said he hoped the study was wrong. He said FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) was working to open a large capacity hospital in Atlantic City.

McClellan said the county Office of Emergency Management was requesting a drive-thru testing site at the tech school. He said he working through the logistics with the county Health Department to see when it could happen.

Testa answered a question of whether someone furloughed temporarily, such as two weeks, could receive unemployment compensation from the COVID-19 package. He said if a person had a reduction in work hours, they would be eligible for the compensation including freelance and part-time workers who were impacted by the coronavirus shutdown.

A business owner said potential workers may be collecting unemployment to the extent they may have little incentive to return to work in the tourist season.

"Are people just going to collect unemployment, are they not going to even try to take these nominal jobs like dipping ice cream and water ice?" she asked. "I'm very worried about that."

Cape May County Chamber of Commerce President Vicki Clark said no one knows when businesses will be able to reopen.

"Hopefully, people will be ready to go back to work and anxious to get our economy up and running faster and better than it was before," she said.

The business owner questioned, "if somebody can just sit at home or go to the beach and make what they can make if we're just going to pay them \$11 an hour," would they go back to work. She said she would like to hire employees now to open May 1.

Clark said unemployment benefits would be limited and "not go on forever."

The business owner said normally 2,000 J-1 workers come to Cape May County.

"Right now the embassies are closed in all those countries, so they are not getting their interviews," she said. "First, they have to go through their interview and then they buy their plane tickets to come over here."

County chamber chairman Doug Burke asked that considering the population here of retired persons and the challenge of visitors flocking to the county, what was the plan to keep residents safe and conduct testing for the virus.

McClellan said he hoped a testing site would come to fruition soon in the county, particularly for first responders.

"One of the things we all talk about is we're always last," Simonsen said. "We're the last ones thought about down here and also we've had less cases than up north, we're last on the list, we've been raising our voices about that."

County Freeholder Jeffrey Pierson said the county was working towards a testing site. He said it was unknown if the county would be able to get support from Trenton.

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For up to date information on COVID-19 please visit [www.covid19.nj.gov](http://www.covid19.nj.gov)

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In the interest of the entire community, we hope all of you stay well and remember **"Help Us Help You"** and together we will Beat Corona

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### TIDES : April 8-15, 2020

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
8	8:54	9:21	2:31	2:53
9	9:43	10:09	3:24	3:40
10	10:33	10:59	4:17	4:28
11	11:25	11:51	5:11	5:18
12		12:21	6:08	6:12
13	12:47	1:22	7:08	7:11
14	1:48	2:30	8:11	8:15
15	2:54	3:40	9:16	9:23

### MOON PHASES

Full moon: April 8, last quarter: April 14

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