

# Murphy extends outdoor dining permission two years

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

TRENTON — Gov. Phil Murphy signed a bill Aug. 3 to extend expanded permissions for restaurants, bars, distilleries and breweries to serve patrons outdoors in private areas, on sidewalks and in other municipally designated outdoor areas.

They were set to expire Nov. 30 but have been extended by two years to support the food and beverage industry.

“My administration worked in collaboration with the Legislature to support the restaurant industry and their customers by expanding outdoor dining during the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue that support today by extending these expanded permissions for food and beverage establishments throughout our state,” Murphy said. “Supporting the success of our small businesses ultimately means supporting the success of our communities. Continuing this successful practice will not only benefit

small business owners, but also the many patrons who have come to enjoy the atmosphere and opportunities outdoor dining offers.”

The law authorizes outdoor dining until Nov. 30, 2024, extending a law that was signed by Murphy in February 2021.

“Outdoor dining was a vital lifeline for restaurants and bars that experienced severe financial hardship during the pandemic,” said Sen. Paul Sarlo, D-Bergen, Passaic. “It allows local businesses to stay afloat, to keep their employees on the payroll, and to generate economic activity that brings life to communities throughout the state. Their hard times are not over, as they continue to face challenges during difficult times. We can now extend a practice that has proven to be successful for business owners and employees and very popular with patrons.”

“Even with indoor dining back, residents still enjoy dining al fresco. Our businesses are on the road to recovery,” Assembly members Roy Freiman, Gabriela

Mosquera and Chris Tully said. “Every resource must be available to them while they get back on track. It worked well during the peak of the pandemic and now, many have found this to be an expanded opportunity for restaurateurs and certain businesses. It’s good for small business.”

In Cape May, applicants for outdoor dining must provide cut sheets of materials to be used, furniture must not be chained to poles or other structures in view of the streetscape, heating apparatus would be subject to the approval of the Bureau of Fire Prevention and positioned to preserve 5 feet of pedestrian egress.

In addition, no outdoor cooking facilities are permitted, no additional signage including street or chalk signs allowed, the last seating for any outdoor dining area shall be no later than 9:30 p.m., no public address systems are permitted, no change in drainage or grading is permitted and umbrellas must follow safety standards.

The ordinance clarifies that it provides allocation outdoors of existing seating and not creation of new or

additional seating.

Permits for temporary outdoor dining due to the COVID pandemic ended in the city

on the last day of 2021 which also ended dining tables and chairs in parking lots, right of ways and closed streets.

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### TIDES: Aug. 10-17, 2022

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
10	7:03	7:31	12:52	12:46
11	7:59	8:24	1:46	1:44
12	8:53	9:15	2:37	2:39
13	9:44	10:04	3:26	3:33
14	10:33	10:52	4:13	4:26
15	11:23	11:40	5:00	5:19
16		12:12	5:45	6:13
17	12:29	1:03	6:31	7:10

### MOON PHASES

Full moon, Aug. 12 • last quarter, Aug. 19

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