

FERRIS HILLS AT WEST LAKE



Independent and Enriched Senior Living in the Finger Lakes

To: Ferris Hills Residents
From: Aimee Ward
Date: June 23, 2020
Re: COVID-19 and Operational Update

In keeping with the “abundance of caution” strategy that has served us so well to date, we have decided to wait one more week to reopen the dining room. Because an asymptomatic Clark Meadows associate has tested positive this week, we want to wait until the rest of the staff test results come in to confirm we are safe to continue. We will also be postponing activities planned for this week, including Thursday’s lecture and Friday’s social.

The protocol for someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 is to remain quarantined and then be retested before returning to work.

This is also a good reminder that it is very important to *wear your face mask to protect yourself*. As we move forward next week with more opportunities to add normalcy back into our lives, both staff and residents must bear responsibility for everyone’s safety within our community. We can’t be safe without everyone following the guidelines offered by the CDC and WHO.

- In general, you should be wearing a face mask any time you are outside of your apartment.
- If you are not feeling well, please stay in your apartment. We will bring you all that you need, including mail and supplies. Be sure to call your doctor and notify myself or Claire Watson.
- Please be sure your face mask covers your nose, mouth, and chin.
- If you are visiting with someone outdoors and are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more, you do not need a mask.
- You should use hand sanitizer before opening doors and pushing elevator buttons.
- Wash hands often and avoid touching your face.

We will be following restaurant guidelines for seating when our Dining Room reopens. I know many of you are looking forward to being with other residents at meal time. *Guests/Visitors are not allowed in the Dining Room*, but you may dine with them in your apartment.

Our visitation policy is remaining the same through Phase III. This policy allows for one designated visitor per apartment and **up to 5 visitors** if you are meeting outside on your patio or in the gazebo area. You **must maintain 6 feet** social distance if you want to take your mask off.

Though guests are allowed outside to visit, they are not allowed to attend any outside concerts or events at this time. They also are not allowed inside to use public bathrooms.

Transportation to all medical appointments and some shopping continues. We will be looking at increasing our transportation in July by adding transport on Sunday mornings as churches start to reopen.

The Vista remains open for small groups to gather to play cards, games or socialize.

We will continue with limits in the mail room, Marketplace and on elevators.

We ask that you continue with signing in and taking temperatures when you return from going outside in a vehicle. Outside walks are still encouraged and there is no need to sign in/temperature check.

Returning residents who have been out of state or stayed in a hotel/motel will need to quarantine for 5 days (down from 14 days). On the 6th and 7th day, we ask for you to report to the front desk to have your temperature checked. Please check in with Claire or myself if there are any questions.

While New York State may have been labeled overly cautious, it has indeed paid off. Meanwhile, other states that have been less diligent in their behaviors (social distancing and wearing of masks) are now suffering the consequences and are seeing a spike in COVID cases. We have come so far by being cautious – let's continue to be **Ferris Hills Strong and Ferris Hills Safe.**