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Dear Residents of SD-44:

On Friday, the SEPA region will move into the **green phase** as [outlined](#) by Governor Wolf. Last week, Pennsylvania was [recognized](#) as 1 of only 3 states that has seen a steady decline in COVID-19 cases over the past 42 days. The commitment that each of us has made as individuals and members of our community to keep each other safe and healthy is paying off.



**Pennsylvania is *one of just three states* that has had a downward trajectory of COVID-19 cases for *more than 42 days*.**

The green phase eases most restrictions with the continued suspension of the stay-at-home and business closure orders to allow the economy to strategically reopen while continuing to prioritize public health. Our continued effort to combat the virus will help ensure that businesses that reopen can do so without having to shut again as is the case of some states.

My staff and I are always available by phone at 610-792-2137 and by email at [senatormuth@pasenate.com](mailto:senatormuth@pasenate.com) to help answer your questions and provide you with the resources that you need. We will also continue to share new information through E-blasts, social media and on [website](#) as we receive it to ensure you, your family, schools, and small businesses have the most up-to-date information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katie Muth".

Senator Katie Muth

## Follow-up: Virtual Town Hall for Small Business Grants



*(Click the picture to view the full townhall)*

The COVID-19 public health crisis has impacted every Pennsylvanian in every community. The recently enacted state budget includes \$2.6 billion in federal stimulus funds through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES).

The Department of Community and Economic Development has been allocated \$225 million for COVID-19 relief to small businesses through a distribution to [Community Development Financial Institutions](#) (CDFIs). This past week I held a virtual town hall with business finance experts to help you prepare for the application process.

Below are a list of resources mentioned on the call and others we believe can help you with your application process:

Guidelines for the [COVID-19 Relief Statewide Small Business Assistance Program](#) are available [here](#), as well as a list of [17 participating CDFIs](#).

An application window will open in late June. Businesses should prepare the following:

- 2018 or 2019 tax return;
- business registration, license, or articles of incorporation;
- must have an e-mail address;
- valid ID;
- electronic versions of documents;
- most recent bank statement;
- a description of how the business was impacted by COVID-19;
- and a description of how the business plans to use the funds.

Please sign up for email alerts about the program at [www.pabusinessgrants.com](http://www.pabusinessgrants.com), which also serves as a resource portal for the grant program. At this website, you will also be able to receive up-to-date information as it is released.

## SEPA Moves into the Green Phase

Effective at 12am on Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> Berks, Chester and Montgomery Counties enter into the green phase of the Governor's phased reopening plan. [The green phase eases most restrictions](#) with the continued suspension of the stay at home and business closure orders to allow the economy to strategically reopen while continuing to prioritize public health.

# Chester, Berks & Montgomery Counties

GREEN PHASE

## Work and Congregate Settings

- **Businesses currently operating at 50% capacity may increase to 75% capacity**
- **Continued telework strongly encouraged when possible**
- **Businesses with In-Person Operations Must Follow Updated Business and Building Safety Requirements**
- **Congregate Care Restrictions in Place**

## Social Restrictions

- **Large Gatherings of More Than 250 prohibited**
- **Masks Are Required When Entering a business**
- **All Entertainment, Restaurants and Bars Open at 50% Occupancy**
- **Personal Care Services (including hair salons and barbershops) Open at 50% Occupancy and by Appointment Only**
- **Indoor Recreation, Health and Wellness Facilities, and Personal Care Services Open at 50% Occupancy**



While this phase will facilitate a return to a “new normal,” it will be equally important to continue to monitor public health indicators and adjust orders and restrictions as necessary to ensure the spread of disease remains at a minimum. Our continued effort to combat the virus will help ensure that businesses that reopen can do so without having to shut again.

## Wolf Administration Releases Summer Camp and Recreation Guidance

The weather is heating up and the Wolf administration has released helpful tips and guidance on how to enjoy summer time activities, while also staying safe and healthy. The Pennsylvania Department of Health issued the [FAQs](#) that include guidance on:

- The types of summer programs for children and youth permitted to operate during Gov. Wolf’s phased-in reopening plan.
- Additional requirements for summer programs operating in counties in the green phase beyond what is required by the CDC.
- The summer programs operating in counties in the green phase that are permitted to operate fully indoor, fully outdoor, or a combination of indoor and outdoor.
- Enrollment restrictions on summer programs in counties in the green phase.
- Status of public playgrounds during the phased reopening.
- Status of organized team sports during the phased reopening.
- Operation of public bathing places and community pools during the phased reopening.
- Operation of camping, campgrounds and group camping separate from organized summer camps for youth.
- Status of Department of Conservation and Natural Resources facilities during the various phases of reopening.

Check out some helpful tips below on how to stay cool during the summer months, while also protecting yourself and others when using public pools.

## Heading to the Pool?

### Before Going Out

- CHECK POOL GUIDELINES
- IF YOU’RE NOT FEELING WELL, STAY HOME
- PACK DISINFECTANTS

### By the Pool

- WEAR A MASK
- STAY 6 FEET FROM OTHERS
- AVOID CROWDS
- COVER YOUR COUGHS
- WASH HANDS



### In the Pool

- DON’T WEAR A MASK
- STAY 6 FEET FROM OTHERS
- DON’T BLOW YOUR NOSE OR SPIT NEAR OTHERS
- COVER YOUR COUGHS
- DON’T SHARE ITEMS WITH OTHERS



## Pennsylvania Needs a JUST Recovery

As a result of COVID-19, more than 1.5 million Pennsylvanians filed for unemployment. Last week, The Pennsylvania Senate Democratic Caucus hosted an all-day, statewide hearing entitled “A Just Recovery.” I co-hosted the SEPA hearing with some of my other colleagues in the region.

## Senator Muth "PA Needs a Just Recovery" Press Conference With House colleagues and Working Families



(Click photo to see full press conference)

Low wage workers continue to work in their essential positions, many without proper medical or labor protections. They were being paid \$7.25 per hour for jobs that put them at some of the highest risk of contracting coronavirus.

As we reopen, we have to repair an economy that was flawed even before it was shut down. The public health crisis laid bare what working families have known for years – the system is tilted against worker.

We don't just need a reopening, we need a recovery: a just recovery.

## COVID-19 Testing for Chester and Montgomery County Residents



### **Chester County**

Chester County has expanded Nasal Swab Testing for COVID-19 to 7 locations throughout Chester County.

Health Insurance is run, but there is no out of pocket expense for individuals with financial constraints.

Everyone is able to get this test.

[Registration is required HERE.](#)

### **Montgomery County**

Residents no longer need to show symptoms to get tested at one of [Montgomery County Office of Public Health's](#) FREE COVID-19 testing sites. Anyone can get tested.

For more info, visit [montcopa.org/covid-19](http://montcopa.org/covid-19), or call 610-631-3000 between 8am-3pm.

If you don't live near these sites, [click here](#) to find testing near you.

## How to Stay Informed

Below is an extensive list of information, statistics, and resources to ensure you stay up-to-date with any changes happening due to COVID-19.

Check out [my website](#) for a comprehensive list of resources or one of the helpful site below.

### **Pennsylvania Department of Health**

- The PA DoH [Daily COVID-19 report](#). Updated regularly throughout the day.
- Follow the PA Health Department on [Twitter](#).
- Follow them on [Facebook](#).

### **U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

- [Track confirmed cases in the US](#). (This site is updated weekdays at noon and shows numbers that were current as of 4 p.m. the previous day.)
- CDC provided information regarding "[What you should know about COVID-19](#)"
- Follow the CDC on [Twitter](#).
- Follow the CDC on [Facebook](#).
- Learn how best to [prevent "community transition"](#) with specific details on what to do before, during, and after outbreaks.

### **World Health Organization**

- Learn what's happening Worldwide with the [WHO's Daily report](#). The most recent report is located at the top of the page. It includes confirmed case and death tallies.
- Additional COVID-19 information is provided on their [website](#).
- Stay informed on [Twitter](#).
- Follow their [Facebook](#) page.

**Be sure to check out the complete list of information, data, and resources available to those in:**

**[Berks County](#)**

**[Chester County](#)**

**[Montgomery County](#)**



SIGN UP FOR TEXT ALERTS  
from

**KATIE MUTH**  
PENNSYLVANIA STATE SENATOR

Submit your mobile number to stay up-to-date with the latest events and happenings from Senator Katie Muth sent right to your phone.

  


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