



Race Point Lighthouse
Wood End Lighthouse
Long Point Lighthouse
Provincetown, MA

March 19, 2020

To: General Public, RPL portal on website, Facebook, Instagram, American Lighthouse Foundation, CC-NPS, USCG Warwick RI
Subject: Informational Notice of Delayed RPL Opening for the 2020 Summer Season
From: Race Point BOD, Chair Gary A. Childs

It is with deep regret that we announce that the Cape Cod Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation, Race Point Lighthouse Station will have a delayed opening this 2020 Season until, at the earliest, June 1. This may have to be extended into the middle of June or later depending on circumstances.

With an abundance of precautions, and for our Guests and Keepers, we are remaining closed due to the current COVID-19 pandemic. Most of our Keepers are older and we can not protect them while they are out there. Under the current CDC and USA guidelines we cannot comply with the social distancing and cleaning standards in a structure that was built with the common kitchen, dining, and bathroom setup. Some of you are aware of the typical April chores that take place out there, from construction and clean up. That cannot happen now. Those Guests that have stayed out there are aware of the traditional turnover which does not allow for a deeper cleaning than has been done in the past during Guest and/or Keeper changeovers.

Many Lighthouses and Museums are having to change their daily operations. Access to/from the Station also has some issues regarding erosion and the threatened, not endangered, plovers. This does not lend to quick emergency action/access. As I write this, the Cape Cod National Seashore, CACO NPS, has closed all their recreational areas, but not the beach just yet. These are changing times as we all work through this infectious disease progression.

Events:

Mariner's Day, Spring 2020 Community Education Program, Overnight stay for other non-profit donations have been canceled. Repainting of the Lighthouse, repairs to the older photovoltaic Solar array, turbine repairs, general construction and replacement of the water side columns, annual repairing and painting of the KH and WH interiors have all been canceled. The May Lighthouse Tours, also, have been canceled. Other ALF Lighthouses will most likely open later in the Season. If you are interested in viewing them during your in-house time, go to <http://www.lighthousefoundation.org/>. The ALF annual GALA meeting in NH has been canceled until 2021.

Monies and Cancellations:

Our RPL Mission Statement is for the preservation and restoration of the Station and the general public access to the property. Our "income," less some administrative costs, go to the Missions Statement for RPL and about another dozen Lighthouses in New England. This will be a financial hit, but we are going to do the "right thing." All monies from the KH and WH Guest Bookings is being returned without holding back any service-related costs; these will be absorbed internally. We are shutting the Station down and by our Policy Statement, all monies will be returned. Many of our returning Guests we have come to know, and for our newer first-time Guests, we wish to do right by them as well. Our Reservations Manager will be notifying all the Guests via email and returning their reservations monies.

Updates: We will post updates on our website www.racepointlighthouse.org and Social Media.

Be well and Sincerely,  Gary Childs, Race Point Lighthouse Chair

CC: American Lighthouse Foundation—Bob Trapani
Race Point Lighthouse Board of Directors

Cape Cod Chapter of the American Lighthouse Foundation

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