



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD
Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor

City of New Bedford
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P R E S S R E L E A S E

City Takes Steps To Assist Residents During Heat Wave

Residents Encouraged to Use Cooling Centers At Libraries
Lifeguard Coverage At City Beaches Is Extended

New Bedford, Massachusetts – The National Weather Service has issued a Heat Advisory for all of Southern New England, including New Bedford, from 11:00 am, Thursday, July 27, through 8:00 pm, Saturday, July 29. Heat Index values of up to 100 degrees are expected in the city.

In response to the extreme weather, the City will continue its practice of designating public libraries as cooling centers. All library locations have air conditioning and staff on hand to assist residents. Residents should check the City website for the operating hours of specific library branches: <https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/library/>

In anticipation of large crowds at municipal beaches, the City has extended lifeguard coverage at East and West Beach. Lifeguards will be on duty until 7:00 pm on Thursday, July 27, and Friday, July 28.

Mayor Jon Mitchell urged residents to take sensible steps to help keep their family and friends safe, saying “I encourage everyone over the next few days to check on elderly neighbors, children, pets, and those with health conditions that could put them at risk. A phone call or a visit could really make the difference for someone you care about. Please use common sense and take heat-related risks seriously.”

Safety Tips

The City encourages residents to follow the heat-related safety tips available at:

<https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/emergency-management/emergencies-disasters/extreme-heat/>

and pet-related tips at

<https://www.newbedford-ma.gov/animal-control/pet-tips/hot-weather-tips/>

National Weather Service Precautionary/Preparedness Actions

Drink plenty of fluids, stay in an air-conditioned room, stay out of the sun, and check up on relatives and neighbors. Young children and pets should never be left unattended in vehicles under any circumstances.

Take extra precautions if you work or spend time outside. When possible, reschedule strenuous activities to early morning or evening. Know the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Wear lightweight and loose-fitting clothing when possible. To reduce risk during outdoor work, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommends scheduling frequent rest breaks in shaded or air conditioned environments. Anyone overcome by heat should be moved to a cool and shaded location. Heat stroke is an emergency! Call 9 1 1.

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