

SALEM COMPASS

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December 15, 2023



Mayor's Message



Dear resident,

Thank you for reading the final issue of the Salem Compass Newsletter in 2023!

With the arrival of Winter weather, the City of Salem has issued important reminders about the City's rules and ordinances regarding snow removal and parking rules during emergencies. Don't forget to sign up for the City's CodeRED alert system if you haven't already to receive notifications on Snow Emergencies via phone, e-mail and/or text by clicking [here](#).

The City is launching a new curbside composting incentive program, in partnership with Black Earth Compost, a local full-service composting company. Read in this issue to learn more about the program and how to enroll.

Free rapid COVID tests are available once again this season for residents to pick up in the Health Department. and we all gather with loved ones to celebrate, I encourage residents, businesses, and employees to take advantage of this opportunity to keep each other safe, and the holiday season healthy

Please accept my best wishes for a very happy holiday season full of peace and joy, and may the New Year bring you and yours a New Year filled with happiness and good health.

Dominick Pangallo
Mayor
City of Salem

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Free Rapid COVID Tests	1
Snow Emergency Reminders	2
Salem Certified as MBTA Compliant Community	3
Ota, Japan Assembly Members Visit Salem	3
Curbside Composting Incentive Program	4
Salem Chanukah Celebration	5
Coming Up Dec. 18 - Dec. 31	6

City of Salem Offers FREE Rapid COVID-19 Test Kits

The City of Salem once again will offer free COVID-19 rapid antigen test kits.

"I am proud the City is able to offer COVID test kits to Salem residents, businesses and employees once again



this season," said Mayor Pangallo, "As we head into the winter holidays this year, and we all gather with loved ones to celebrate, I encourage community members to take advantage of this opportunity to keep each other safe, and the holiday season healthy."

The City will make these test kits available to residents, businesses, and employees. The tests can be picked up at the Board of Health at the City Hall Annex (98 Washington Street) during the City's normal business hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 8:00am-4:00pm, Thursdays 8:00am-7:00pm and Fridays 8:00am-12:00pm.

Up to five boxes of two test kits (for a total of ten rapid tests) will be available to each household while supplies last.

For more information, please contact the Salem Board of Health at 978-741-1800.

City of Salem Snow Emergency Reminders



With the arrival of winter, the City of Salem is issuing a reminder about the City's rules and ordinances regarding snow removal and parking during any declared snow emergency.

Salem's Snow Emergency Parking Rules

When a Snow Emergency goes into effect, vehicles must be removed from all City streets and sidewalks. Failure to do

so will result in ticketing and/or towing.

- [Click here](#) for an interactive Snow Emergency parking map.

All vehicles must be removed from these parking locations following the cancellation of the snow emergency (weekends included) or vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense.

Please note that most Salem Public School lots are NOT allowable off-street winter snow emergency parking. On-street parking on several streets and other sites that have been identified as wide enough to enable parking during snow emergencies is permitted, as well as parking in other City lots and garages, as indicated on the map and table below.

The activation of the blue snow emergency lights at key intersections around the City is a signal that residents should visit www.salem.com for additional information and not a representation that a snow emergency parking ban is necessarily in effect at that precise time. Snow emergency parking rates in the City garages go into effect **two hours before** the declared start of the snow emergency and not when the blue snow emergency lights are activated. Vehicles parked in the garages before the snow emergency will be charged the regular parking rate.

Again, **Salem Public School lots are not allowable as snow emergency parking locations**, except as specified on the next page. Parking a vehicle in a school lot during a snow emergency will result in a ticket and tow.

Where alternative parking locations are on-street, residents parking in those locations must park between the posted snow emergency parking area signs. Vehicles parked outside of the signed area are subject to ticketing and towing.

To find the list of allowable parking locations during a snow emergency in the City of Salem, as well as information regarding Salem plow districts, sidewalk & use path map and all things snow related can be found on <https://www.salemma.gov/snow-central>

[Click here for the Downtown Snow Emergency Map](#)

Salem residents can sign-up for the City's CodeRED Alert System to receive notifications on Snow Emergencies via phone, e-mail and/or text by [clicking here](#).

Salem First City Certified as Compliant with the MBTA Communities Act



On Tuesday, December 12th, Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll announced that Salem has been officially certified as compliant with the MBTA Communities Act - the first city in the Commonwealth to reach this milestone. Locally, we're working to advance policies and projects to better meet our affordability challenges here in Salem And we're fortunate to have strong partners in Governor Maura Healey and Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll at the state level, who are committed to championing this critically important work.

Despite this achievement, we still have much work to do to ensure we're right sizing our housing supply and providing a roof over the head of every resident, and one that they can afford.



Ota, Japan Assembly Members Visit City Hall



Also on Tuesday, Mayor Pangallo had honor of welcoming a delegation from the City Assembly of our sister city - Ota, Japan - to Salem City Hall. There may be thousands of miles between our two cities, but for over three decades the sister city bond has kept us close. Learn more about the Salem - Ota sister-city relationship at [https://i.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%](https://i.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2F)



**FREE
Curbside
Bin**

with
**Curbside
Compost
Subscription**

courtesy of
**City of
Salem**



Salem Launches Curbside Composting Incentive Program

Mayor Dominick Pangallo announced last week that the City of Salem is launching a new curbside composting incentive program, in partnership with Black [Earth Compost](#), a local full-service composting company.

The next 150 new Salem weekly residential subscribers of Black Earth Compost will receive a free 13-gallon Black Earth Compost curbside bin, courtesy of the City of Salem!

Black Earth Compost accepts a variety of materials for curbside pick-up, including meat, bones, dairy, pumpkins, and napkins. A full list of compostable materials can be found here: <https://blackearthcompost.com/media/uploads/2019/09/26/BlackEarthCompostGuide.pdf>. Residents utilizing this service will receive a voucher for a cubic-foot bag of finished compost in the spring, as well as discounts on bulk compost and soil blends.

"Diverting food waste from the trash and instead composting is the most effective way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Waste Reduction Coordinator Janelle Rolke explains. "Our goal is to grow the curbside compost program in Salem. Once the City has over 1,000 subscriptions, the weekly and bi-weekly cost for the curbside compost program will decrease for each subscriber. If you're looking for the perfect holiday gift for a friend or family member, consider taking advantage of this offer!"

"I am very pleased that we're able to offer this incentive program to encourage more curbside composting," said Mayor Pangallo, "We're working to minimize our solid waste tonnage and diverting food waste is a critical part of that effort. Not only is it better for the environment but by lessening our trash tonnage we can mitigate increases in disposal costs. This program will encourage and enable more Salem households to join our community effort to keep our city clean and reduce costs. If you're looking for a great gift idea for the holidays or want to make a thoughtful resolution for the new year, signing up for our curbside composting program is an easy way to make a positive difference."

To enroll in the curbside compost program and receive your free 13-gallon bin, please visit: <https://blackearthcompost.com/residential-curb-side-compost-pickup/?town=Salem,%20MA>.

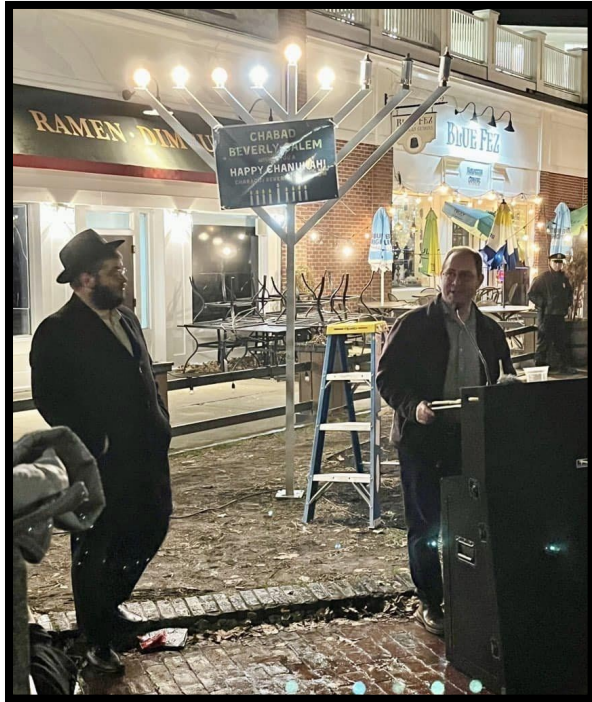
The current pricing through Black Earth Compost for weekly compost pick-ups in Salem is \$114.99/year or every other week for \$89.99/year.

In addition to curbside collection, Salem residents have other options to divert food scraps from the waste stream. A free compost drop off station located at Mack Park is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so residents can drop off their food waste at a time that is convenient for them. The City is working to additionally identify other sites for public composting drop-off, with more details about those coming soon. Visit greensalem.com/programs/compost/ for more information about composting in Salem.

For more information, contact Janelle Rolke at 978-619-5672 or jrolke@salem.com

Salem Chanukah Celebration

Many thanks to Chabad of the North Shore for organizing last week's menorah lighting at Lappin Park and to the Salem Fire Department for making our first community gelt drop a memorable one!



Coming Up Dec. 18 - Dec. 31

For more details about items on this calendar and the most up to date calendar of City meetings and events, please visit www.salemga.gov/calendar.

Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
<p>18</p> <p>State Rep. Manny Cruz Pubic Office Hours - CLC 9:30-11am</p> <p>Salem School Committee - Building & Grounds Subcommittee Meeting 3pm</p> <p>Salem School Committee - Finance Subcommittee Meeting 5:15pm</p> <p>Licensing Board Meeting 6pm</p> <p>Tree Commission Meeting 7pm</p> <p>Salem School Committee Regular Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Commission on Disabilities Meeting 4:30pm</p> <p>Conservation Commission Monthly Meeting 6:30pm</p> <p>Salem High School Building Committee Meeting 6:30-8:30pm</p> <p>Park and Recreation Commission Meeting 6:45pm</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Council on Aging Meeting 5:15pm</p> <p>Salem School Committee - Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting 5:30pm</p> <p>Historical Commission Meeting 6pm</p> <p>Design Review Board Meeting 6pm</p> <p>Veterans Council Monthly Meeting 7pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Housing Stability Housing Services - Espacio Drop-in Hours; Información y recursos de vivienda gratuitos para propietarios e inquilinos de Salem - Espacio 4-7pm</p> <p>Salem City Council Special Meeting 6pm</p> <p>Planning Board 6:30pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Christmas Eve observance - 93 & 98 Washington Street closed; all other municipal offices close at 11:30am</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>CHRISTMAS City Offices Closed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Housing Stability Housing Services - CLC Drop-in Hours; Información y recursos de vivienda gratuitos para propietarios e inquilinos de Salem - Centro de Vida Comunitaria 9am-12pm</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>New Years Eve observance 93 & 98 Washington Street closed; all other municipal offices close at 11:30am</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>