



Hadley Business Association

Keeping Community Active

Dear Community Friends and Festival Vendors:

March 18, 2020

Many of you have questions regarding the **Maple in April Festival** that the Hadley Business Association currently has scheduled for April 25 & 26, 2020. With the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns, we are just like everyone else - treading on unfamiliar territory.

The Maple in April Festival committee met to discuss the upcoming festival and the current events with the Coronavirus. We decided to monitor the situation and come together March 31, 2020 to make a more informed decision to either cancel or postpone the festival until the middle of May. We believe that fresh air, sunshine, and exercise are key to a healthy lifestyle and thankfully, most of the Maple in April Festival activities / programs offered are outside, where visitors can choose how much - or how little - direct contact they have with others. With that said, the Hadley Business Association will approach each activity of the festival on an activity-by-activity basis.

We are taking this coronavirus seriously and doing the best we can to move forward as planned by paying close attention to the recommendations and guidance of local, state, and federal officials and health organizations. We will adjust the festival activities according to the *Guidelines for Large Gatherings* from the CDC and World Health Organization along with the latest NYS updates from Governor Cuomo. This will allow us to make the best decision we can from the information we have on hand. Striving to keep the many festival activities within the guidelines provided, we will "reduce group density" in confined areas by eliminating stage performers, and children's bounce-houses.

We ask that all of our festival-goers and vendors decide for themselves whether or not they feel comfortable joining us for the Maple in April Festival. If there is a hint of not feeling well or uncertainty, we ask they not attend out of concern for others' health.

The Hadley Business Association is a non-profit organization, we depend on volunteers, festival events, and fundraisers to provide scholarships and to continue to offer all that we do for our communities. We all have concerns about the potential negative economic impact COVID-19 will have on our communities. So, it has never been more important than now to support your favorite local businesses, organizations, and non-profits. We know that just as our communities have supported each other during the good times that we will all band together during this difficult time as well.

Be well, take care of yourself - and in the words of Teddy Roosevelt - *do what you can, where you are, with what you have.*

Sue Wilder

H.B.A. president

For up-to-date information regarding the Maple in April Festival visit our website:
www.HadleyNYbusiness.org and facebook.com/MapleinAprilFestival page.