



Thursday, Sept 22, 2022

**Erev Yom Tov Men’s Mikveh Protocols**

The *B’nos Israel Mikvah* of Albany is welcoming men to use the mikvah *Erev Rosh Hashanah* and *Erev Yom Kippur*. Men’s mikvah use on these days, in order to prepare for the spiritual intensity of these days, is an ancient, well-established custom, and we are proud to be able to enable it for the 5783 *Yamim Noraim* season.

To uphold the high standards of cleanliness needed at a women’s mikvah to ensure that women continue to feel comfortable using the mikvah, we ask that the following protocols be followed:

1. The mikvah will be open on Sunday, September 25 (*Erev Rosh Hashanah*) 10:00AM - 12:00PM and Tuesday, Oct. 4 (*Erev Yom Kippur*) 10:00AM - 1:00PM
2. The mikvah welcomes all men and boys ages 12 and up.
  - Boys under age 18 must be accompanied by their father.
3. Please shower thoroughly at home prior to using the mikvah.
  - Showering before using the mikvah is important to ensure the cleanliness of the water when the mikvah is used by larger groups of people.
  - If one is unable to shower at home, the mikvah showers will be available for an extra fee.
4. The fee for using the mikvah is \$10 per individual, with a \$30 max/family.
  - If using the shower, the rate is \$15 per individual and \$35 max/family.
5. Please make payment in the form of cash or check (made out to *B’nos Israel*).
6. Please bring your own towels. The mikvah is unable to provide towels.
7. Please remember to remove all your belongings when you leave.
8. Please use the *keilim mikvah* entrance. The mikvah that will be available for men’s use is the “Side by Side” *mikvah*. (The reason for this is that this mikvah is the easiest to clean properly.)
9. We will need male volunteers from the hours of 9:45AM to 12:30 PM on *Erev Rosh Hashanah*, and 9:45 am to 1:30 on *Erev Yom Kippur*. (One can volunteer for all or part of a shift on these days). Please contact Rabbi Kean (rabbi@cbaj.org) to volunteer.

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*L’shanah tovah tikateivu* – May this new year bring abundant bracha and sweetness.

**Sarah Maddali**  
*B’nos Israel President*

**Rabbi Ben Kean**  
*Rav Hamachshir*