

March 13, 2020

**The Mikvah of New Rochelle: Please read this entire message.**

**We hope to open the Mikvah of New Rochelle, by appointment only, Saturday night, March 14. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate walk-ins. To schedule an appointment, please text Sandra Spingarn @914-646-4578.**

**We do need your help. Women under quarantine or who are experiencing symptoms of illness MAY NOT use the mikvah. If you live in the same house as someone who tested positive you must stay quarantined and MAY NOT use the mikvah. If you fall into any of these categories, please consult with and get clearance from your physician before attending the mikvah. Rabbi Fink and Rebbetzin Axelrod are available for further clarification or specific questions.**

The mikvah has established protocols to ensure, to the best that we can, that attending the mikvah continues to be a safe, secure and healthy experience:

- The mikvah facility has been thoroughly sanitized with special attention to all touch surfaces, door knobs, light switches, faucets and railings, all of which have been thoroughly disinfected. Our preparation rooms will continue to be cleaned in between each use (sometimes multiple times in one 24-hour period) with a disinfecting cleanser and now with emphasis on any handheld items. Additionally, our common areas will continue to be thoroughly cleaned on a daily basis.
- All of the mikvah pools are filtered daily and brominated. We have drained one mikvah, sanitized and refilled it. The second mikvah has been continuously filtered and brominated. The virus cannot be transmitted in brominated water.
- We have again impressed upon our cleaning staff the importance of their attention to our ongoing protocols.
- We have and will continue to consult with medical professionals and other communal institutions.
- Our spacious facility provides for minimum waiting room time, if any, which reduces congestion and close contact among patrons. We will stagger appointments to help achieve these goals and ask that no one linger after they have finished immersing.
- **All preparations must be completed at home. Rabbi Fink has made an allowance for women to bathe and shower at home with the intention of directly immersing in the mikvah when you arrive.**
- **We kindly request that you bring your own towel and assist in helping maintain the cleanliness of the facility.**
- The makeup and hair drying room are closed.

The mikvah attendant is working with Rabbi Fink and will be following all the procedures (halachic and practical) we are instituting. **In order for our mikvah to reopen, everyone must adhere to all of these guidelines or you will be putting others at risk.**

Thank you for partnering with us. We pray that these precautions will not only protect against the spread of any illness but will also be seen as a heartfelt prayer for the cure of all those who are ill and for the protection from any further illness to all.