



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: MARCH 30, 2020

THIS IS THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE ENTIRE TOWN OF WELLESLEY AND IS SHARED ACROSS ALL COMMUNICATIONS PLATFORMS

Please remember that the Town of Wellesley and these updates are the official source for the most accurate information on Coronavirus in our community.

Here's what you need to know today.

Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 5,752 **New Cases Today:** 797

Total cases in Norfolk County: 628

Total cases in Wellesley: 17 (0 new today)

The Health Department has issued signage with [important information](#) for all residents to heed when conducting essential business, visiting grocery stores and pharmacies, and supporting local restaurants. PLEASE DO NOT ENTER any establishment if:

- You are feeling sick with the following symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath
- You are in a high-risk population group (older adults or individuals with underlying medical conditions)
- You are waiting for results for a COVID-19 test from a medical provider

Also, residents are urged to follow Take-Out safety guidance when supporting local restaurants. [See these Tips for Take-Out Safety.](#)

NEW! Remote Building Inspection Protocols.

Due to the [State of Emergency](#) and the Emergency Orders declared and issued by Governor Baker, the Wellesley Building Department will be following new protocols to protect the health of the Town's staff, residents, contractors and their families. Effective immediately, ALL building inspections will be conducted remotely via **FaceTime** or **Skype**, or through submission and review of photographs until in-person, on-site inspections can resume in a safe manner. These protocols shall remain in place until the State of Emergency is lifted and may be modified over time. It is the responsibility of the licensed individual to check for updates. [Read the complete details and FaceTime/Skype instructions here.](#)

Social Security Offices Closed.

A reminder to Wellesley senior citizens that all local Social Security offices are closed for walk-in service until further notice. All services are available online for anyone needing assistance, along with a list of frequently asked questions. [Read more here.](#)

Leash Dogs and Pick Up Trash.

From Wellesley's Animal Control Officer Sue Webb: Unleashed dogs are causing concern and anxiety in the community. Residents cannot maintain proper social distancing when dogs approach or jump on individuals. When walking or exercising dogs in public areas, owners must be considerate and keep pets on a leash.

From the Department of Public Works and the Natural Resources Commission: **Please dispose of trash properly!** Town officials have seen discarded gloves, pet waste bags, and other trash on streets and sidewalks, in parking lots, and other improper locations. DPW staff is working to keep our community safe and is not able to routinely clean up parking lot areas, parks and trails.

#WellesleyWillBeWell

Support for Grocery Store and Pharmacy Personnel.

Wellesley grocery stores and pharmacies are working hard to provide the essential services we depend on at this time. The Town is incredibly grateful to everyone for this work. The precautions currently in place are here to protect residents and store employees. Please show your support for these employees. Be considerate when shopping - **keep your distance and be patient!**

PPE Donation Program.

The Wellesley Fire Department continues to pick up PPE donations. The following critical supplies have been collected so far: 142 N95 masks, 2200 surgical masks, 506 surgical gowns, 2 wipe containers, 6500 pairs of gloves. A portion of these donations were distributed to Wellesley's Elizabeth Seaton Residence, a local nursing home very low on essential supplies. To donate, **please call the Fire Department at 781-235-1300.**

The State has also launched a PPE donation portal. [Learn more here.](#)

Reminder: Red Cross Blood Drive on April 1.

The Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Wednesday, April 1 from 12 Noon-5 p.m. at the Wellesley Community Center. **This is by appointment only – NO WALK INS.** Call 1-800-RED-CROSS to schedule an appointment or go to www.RedCrossBlood.org and enter Wellesley Dental Group.

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