



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: APRIL 27, 2020

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

Visit Wellesley's Coronavirus Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 56,462 **New Cases Today:** 1,524

Total cases in Norfolk County: 5,398

Total cases in Wellesley: 167* (4 new) *65 cases in long-term care facilities

The Health Department attributes the spike in case numbers for Norfolk County to testing that is now more widely available and more accurate. In Wellesley, additional testing and retesting is now taking place in our long-term care facilities. As a result, our community may see additional spikes in local cases in the coming days.

RDF Employee Recovering from COVID-19.

The Department of Public Works confirmed today that an employee, who is not a Wellesley resident, is currently recovering from Coronavirus. The individual is an RDF employee who recently tested positive for COVID-19 and has been isolating at home since becoming ill; the Town is releasing this information with permission from this individual. The DPW is following all Health Department precautions to ensure the RDF remains safe for workers and residents who use the facility, including rotating staff to limit the time they interact with users, providing masks for all workers, and following enhanced cleaning protocols.

Health Department officials believe the risk of exposure to the community from this case is relatively low but not out of the question. This situation makes it even more critical for all residents and RDF users wear masks or cloth face coverings when out in the community to protect themselves from virus spread.

Speak with a Social Worker.

Beginning tomorrow, Tuesday, April 28, the Health Department's community social worker is offering call-in hours every Tuesday and Friday for residents to discuss issues related to COVID-19 and tips for healthy coping during times of stress. **Call-in on Tuesdays from 1:00 PM-2:00 PM and on Fridays from 8:30 AM-9:30 AM. Dial 781-489-4354.**

More Help for Residents.

- **Wellesley COVID-19 Call Center.** Staffed by Town employees who can direct residents to appropriate services. Call **781- 239-0256, Monday through Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.**
- **Domestic Violence Help. For emergencies, dial or text 9-1-1;** officers will respond even if callers do not speak.
SafeLink 24-hour Hotline: 877-782-2020
REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, 24/7 Hotline: 800-899-4000, <https://reachma.org/>
National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233
- **Massachusetts COVID-19 Information Line: Call 2-1-1**

#WellesleyWillBeWell

Check Social Media for Up-to-Date Information.

COVID-19 daily briefings, community information, good news and photos are posted regularly on the Town social media pages. Be sure to like us on Facebook at [Town of Wellesley, MA](#) and follow us on Twitter [@TownOfWellesley](#). Coming soon...videos!

Help for Veterans.

The Veterans' Services Department is continuing to process VA claims during this time. Department staff is working remotely but is available by phone to help veterans with unemployment benefits, widows and orphan benefits, and low income needs. **Call 781-850-5504.**

Mask Up Wellesley.

[Vote Safe, Vote from Home](#) postcards are going out this week, reminding residents to request mailed ballots to vote in Wellesley's local Town election. A new election date has not been determined, but voters can have ballots mailed to their homes, vote, and return ballots by mail or drop them in the drop box at Town Hall. Our masked mailer, Assistant Town Clerk Liz Kelley is working from home wearing her mask to safely mail out those postcards.



Send in your good news, photos and more to Stephanie Hawkinson at shawkinson@wellesleyma.gov

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