



## CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: MAY 26, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's Coronavirus Information Hub at [www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus](http://www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus)

### Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

**Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts:** 93,693 **New Cases Today:** 422

**Total cases in Norfolk County:** 7,863

**Total cases in Wellesley:** 209\* (2 new)

\*82 cases total in Wellesley long-term care facilities

Positive antibody tests: 1 new, 33 total

State health officials believe the surge in COVID-19 cases is over in Massachusetts. They continue to watch data on case information that will indicate it is safe to move to the next phase of reopening. Comprehensive information about the key public health indicators for reopening is updated daily on the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 dashboard](#).

### Wellesley Reopening Information.

Following guidance from the Massachusetts Reopening Advisory Board as part of Phase 1, on May 25 some office spaces, laboratories, hair salons and barber shops (no nail or spa services), pet grooming businesses, and car washes in Wellesley were able to reopen under specific mandatory workplace safety standards. [Detailed information is on the Mass.gov website](#). Retail operations remain limited to remote fulfilment or curbside pick-up only. Today, Linden Square announced new marked, curbside pick-up parking spots to help residents pick up online orders from retailers quickly and safely.



The Town is gathering reopening information from businesses to provide a guide for residents. To be included, please email Stephanie Hawkinson at [shawkinson@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:shawkinson@wellesleyma.gov) for information.

Some outdoor recreation areas such as trails, large conservation areas, Fuller Brook Park, and the Town Forest are open; Morses Pond beach and swimming areas remain closed. The Natural Resources Commission, Recreation Commission and School Committee continue to discuss reopening procedures for Wellesley's playing fields, sports courts, and smaller parks. A decision is expected late this week. For all reopenings, please remember that masks are required indoors and outside when social distancing is not possible.

### Annual and Special Town Meeting Postponed to June 22.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Town Moderator has postponed the 2020 Annual Town Meeting for a third time to begin Monday, June 22, 2020. A Special Town Meeting within the Annual Town Meeting is also postponed until June 22. While the current location for Town Meeting is listed as Wellesley Middle School, that location is likely to change pending special legislation. This information

has been posted on the Town website, at Town Hall and at the Wellesley Police Station. [More information is on the Town Clerk's website.](#)

### **Tax Payments Due by June 1.**

The Treasurer's Office and Assessor's Office are reminding residents that tax payments are due by June 1, 2020 at 5 p.m. Due to the Coronavirus, the usual deadlines for real and personal property tax payments and applications for exemptions/deferrals for residents affected by COVID-19 were extended. Online payments are encouraged. Payments may also be dropped into the drop box at the Washington Street side of Town Hall across from the bell. Town Hall remains closed to the public. [Learn more here.](#)

### **Summer Home for the Wellesley Food Pantry.**

Due to renovations in the current space, the Wellesley Food Pantry will be moving down the street on June 1 to the Unitarian Universalist Society building (309 Washington Street). Morning hours remain the same for summer months; there are no summer evening hours. Curbside donations are accepted on Mondays from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Distribution hours are on Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Curbside pick up and delivery (only for those unable to pick up) is available to clients who call or email to fill out shopping forms the prior Friday. [See the Wellesley Food Pantry website for more information.](#)

### **#WellesleyWillBeWell**

#### **Pasta and PPE.**

Italian restaurants in Wellesley are working hard to keep customers and employees safe. Thank you to Comella's, Alta Strada, Fiorella's and Papa Razzi for posing in PPE with take-out orders, and to Beth Shedd for these photos! Please remember to [support our restaurants.](#)



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