



## CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: JULY 24, 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)

### Wellesley Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

Total confirmed and probable cases in Massachusetts: 114,647

Total cases in Norfolk County: 9,849

Total cases in Wellesley: 245

82 cases total in Wellesley long-term care facilities

Positive antibody tests: 77

The Commonwealth continues to see positive trends in COVID-19 public health indicators. [See the Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 dashboard](#). A reminder that Wellesley information is updated weekly every Wednesday on the [Coronavirus Information Hub](#). Enhanced data from MDPH on cases and testing in communities, cases and deaths in long-term care facilities and other relevant COVID-19 data is also reported weekly on Wednesdays. [Read the Weekly COVID-19 Cities and Towns Report](#).

Public health officials anticipate that we will move to Step 2 of Phase 3 of the Massachusetts reopening plan by August. Phase 4 is not likely to occur until there is a vaccine for COVID-19.

### New Travel Order Effective August 1.

Governor Baker has signed a [new travel order](#) that goes into effect on August 1, 2020. The order requires all visitors and returning residents to fill out a "Massachusetts Traveler Form" unless they are coming from a state that has been designated a lower risk COVID-19 state or fall into an exemption category. The exemption states include all New England states, New York, New Jersey, and Hawaii.

The new travel order also provides that visitors and returning residents arriving in Massachusetts from any place other than a COVID-19 lower-risk state must quarantine for 14-days unless they can produce a negative COVID-19 test result administered not more than 72-hours prior to arriving in Massachusetts. This order also includes applies to all students who are returning to campus for the fall semester.

Failure to comply with this order may result in a **\$500 fine per day**. [Read more details on the travel order here](#).

### REMINDER: Wear a Mask/Face Covering

Health officials continue to urge residents to follow the [State and local ordinances](#) that require anyone over the age of 2, or between the ages of 2-5 with parent discretion, to wear a mask or cloth face covering when indoors and outdoors when social distancing is not possible. These precautions are especially important as the rest of the United States continues to experience significant increases in COVID-19 cases.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has proposed an [emergency regulation \(law\) requiring that masks/face coverings](#) be worn at all times in public when social distancing is not possible. This regulation is currently being considered by the State Public Health Commission.

Watch for additional mask information in Wellesley in the coming weeks.

### **Extreme Heat Help During COVID-19.**

Hot temperatures and high humidity are causing concern this summer as many pools and cooling centers remain closed due to Coronavirus. Residents are urged to take precautions to protect themselves and follow safe cooling strategies. [See this list of extreme heat resources.](#)

### **Request Your Vote-by-Mail Application.**

Residents should have received a Vote-by-Mail application from the State. If you did not receive one, [download the form here](#). Applications may be mailed, emailed or dropped off at Town Hall in the Elections and Payment Drop Box. Official ballots will be mailed in mid-August.

Wellesley will be holding the State Primary and Board of Selectmen Special Election on September 1, 2020. If you would like to receive both ballots, please mark **All 2020 Elections** on the Vote-by-Mail Application.

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