



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: NOVEMBER 25, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Please Note: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, this week's [Weekly COVID-19 Public Health Report](#) will be released on Friday, November 27.

New Quarantine Guidance for Close Contacts.

The Wellesley Board of Health has adopted updated quarantine guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) for anyone identified as a close contact of a confirmed COVID-19 case. The updated guidance gives "close contacts" the option to shorten the quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days, providing that specific criteria are met. The MDPH guidance is found on the [Mass.gov website](#) and is as follows:

If you have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, you will need to remain quarantined for:

- *at least 14 days from the date of last exposure; **or***
- *at least 10 days, provided all of the following are satisfied:*
 - *you have not had, and do not have, any symptoms;*
 - *you are tested on **day 8** of your quarantine period or later using a molecular diagnostic test (e.g., polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to detect the presence of the virus;*
 - *you receive a negative test result; and*
 - *you monitor yourself for symptoms for the full 14 days. If you develop symptoms you should contact your health care provider and be re-tested.*

For the 10-day option, all individuals must follow this specific timeline, meet the criteria and have no COVID-19 symptoms in order to resume activity on day 11. Wellesley Public Schools students and/or staff who would like to return to school after 10 days must submit documentation of a negative test to their school nurse. No documentation is necessary for the 14-day quarantine period. Please refer to the [WPS website](#) for more information on school-based responses to COVID-19.

Special Election on December 1.

A reminder that the Town is holding a special election on December 1, 2020 to vote a debt exclusion for the Middle School Building Systems. Mailed ballots may be dropped off at the ballot drop box in front of Town Hall, or residents may vote-in person on December 1.

Holiday Toy Drive Extended to December 5.

The Recreation Department and Youth Commission will collect new, unwrapped toys for the holiday toy drive through December 5. Drop off toys at the collection bin in the Tailby commuter rail lot.

**Thank you to residents for observing all current guidelines as you celebrate the upcoming holiday.
Wishing you a SAFE and Happy Thanksgiving!**

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