



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: APRIL 8, 2020

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

Visit Wellesley's new Coronavirus Information Hub at

www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 16,790 New Cases Today: 1,588

Total cases in Norfolk County: 1,778

Total cases in Wellesley: 36 (3 new)

Grocery Stores Must Limit Occupancy.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health issued an order that limits occupancy in all grocery stores to protect shoppers and store employees. The order is effective immediately until May 4 or longer and requires stores **to cap occupancy levels at 40 percent of their maximum permitted occupancy level at all times**. This number includes both customers and store employees and must be monitored by store staff. Small stores with an occupancy of 25 people or less are exempt. [Read the order here.](#)

In Wellesley, this order affects Roche Bros., Whole Foods and Fells Market. Shoppers should expect:

- Lines outside of grocery stores as staff monitors customers coming in
- Requirements to stand 6 feet apart from others while waiting in line
- Inside shopping aisles to be one-way with signage and floor markings to encourage spacing between customers
- Encouragement to use online delivery services or curbside pickup

Shopping hours for senior citizens remain in effect. Residents are urged to plan their shopping carefully as stores are expected to be very busy during the coming days in preparation for the Passover and Easter holidays. Please remember to wear a cloth face mask if possible when shopping.

PLEASE NOTE: Fells Market will be closed from Sunday, April 12 through Sunday April 19, and Roche Bros. will be closed on Sunday, April 12 and Monday, April 13.

Nursing Home Family Resource Line.

The State has a new dedicated telephone line to connect family members of nursing home and rest home residents with the information and resources they need. As these facilities currently allow no visitors, families and community members are encouraged to call **617-660-5399** with questions or concerns about care their loved one is receiving during the COVID-19 outbreak. Staff will coordinate across state agencies to help callers find answers to their questions. **The line is staffed from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week.**

#WellesleyWillBeWell

Supporting Wellesley Call Center.

Town employees are staffing a call center for residents in need of services as a result of Covid-19. The team can assist with non-emergency COVID-19 issues such as medical questions, securing food, prescription delivery, financial assistance or a listening ear. Callers will be connected to appropriate town resources or certified volunteers who can help residents access these services. **For help, call 781-239-0256 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.**

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