



## CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: APRIL 16, 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](http://www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus)

### Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

**Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts:** 32,181    **New Cases Today:** 2,263

**Total cases in Norfolk County:** 3,342

**Total cases in Wellesley:** 82 (7 new) \*see the explanation below

Health officials report that the Commonwealth is in the middle of the surge phase of the COVID-19 virus. This surge is expected to continue for at least another 10 days, if not longer. Wellesley's new case numbers today include cases of community spread and cases in our long-term care facilities. Additional testing is taking place in these facilities with the help of the National Guard.

The total case count for Wellesley also includes the six recovered cases that were originally reported in March but no longer listed in these briefings. This number coincides with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health information for cities and towns. [See the COVID-19 case counts by cities and towns here.](#)

### Staff Support for Long Term-Care Facilities.

State and local long-term care facilities are currently hiring staff and recruiting volunteers to assist with COVID-19 care and support. If you are looking for work, or if you are a facility looking for workers, [visit the State long-term care staffing website here.](#) To volunteer at a long-term care facility in Wellesley, please email Cheryl Lefman, Wellesley Health Department, at [clefman@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:clefman@wellesleyma.gov)

The Commonwealth provides a Nursing Home Family Resource Line for any family members with questions about nursing home care. **Call 617-660-5399, seven days a week between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.**

### Supporting Wellesley Call Center Offers Non-Urgent COVID-19 Help.

Town employees continue to staff a call center for residents needing non-emergency help or answers to questions resulting from COVID-19. Please call for help with non-urgent medical issues or prescriptions, housing and financial assistance options, grocery assistance, or a listening ear. Callers will be connected to providers or certified volunteers for further assistance as needed. **For help, call 781-239-0256 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.**

### 2020 Annual Town Meeting Second Postponement.

Due to the continuing public safety emergency of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town Moderator has declared the second postponement of Wellesley's Annual Town and Special Town Meetings. The rescheduled date is now Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Wellesley Middle School Auditorium on Kingsbury Street. [Read more here.](#)

## RMV Announces More Extensions.

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles is extending deadlines for many services including license renewals, permits, vehicle registrations, inspection stickers and more. [Learn more here.](#)

## #WellesleyWillBeWell

### Good News!

Residents continue to support the Town's Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) program. To donate **please call the Fire Department at 781-235-1300**. This program is **PICK-UP ONLY**. All supplies collected are distributed to local hospitals and long-term care facilities.

To ensure these supplies are available where critically needed, Wellesley firefighters are wearing cloth face masks sewn by local residents when not on official calls. Thank you to the more than 50 sewers and 20 deliverers, led by Lynda Cowin Nijensohn, from the communities of Wellesley, Newton, Needham and more, who are part of the group "Sewing COVID-19 Help-Working Together."



### Mask Up Wellesley.

Town officials continue to urge everyone to wear cloth face coverings or masks outside of homes to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and flatten the curve. The Board of Selectmen and the Selectmen's Office are working remotely while following these guidelines.



Please keep sending us your good news and check [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see today's posts. Email your stories, photos, videos and more to [shawkinson@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:shawkinson@wellesleyma.gov)