



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: MAY 19, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's Coronavirus Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Health Department COVID-19 Case Update.

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 87,925 **New Cases Today:** 873

Total cases in Norfolk County: 7,565

Total cases in Wellesley: 205* (1 new)

*82 cases total in Wellesley long-term care facilities

Positive antibody tests: 0 new, 31 total

Health officials continue to monitor six key markers to guide reopening plans for the Commonwealth and for Wellesley that need to show positive progress for the reopening phases to move forward. The markers are: COVID-19 positive test rates, number of individuals who died from COVID-19, number of COVID-19 patients in hospitals, healthcare system readiness (surge capacity), testing capacity, and contact tracing capabilities. This information is now updated daily on the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 dashboard](#).

Town Officials Continue to Review Reopening Guidance.

Town and Health Department officials continue to review the reopening guidance shared on May 18. Comprehensive information is available on the [Reopening Massachusetts website](#). **Phase 1, Start**, of the Reopening Plan is in effect. This phase is expected to last at least three weeks. For information and a timeline of allowed activities in Phase 1, see the [Town of Wellesley website](#). The Board of Selectmen voted tonight to NOT extend Wellesley's supplemental essential construction guidance. Construction may proceed according to State guidelines; all contractors must follow the [Construction mandatory safety standards and protocols](#).

As a reminder, to reopen, all businesses must have and display the following:

- [COVID-19 Control Plan template](#) - Template that satisfies the written control plan requirement for self-certification. This must remain on site for review if requested by the Board of Health.
- [Compliance attestation poster](#) – Poster that customer facing businesses are required to print, sign, and post in an area within the business premises that is visible to workers and visitors.
- [Employer](#) and [Worker](#) posters – Posters that businesses can print and display within the business premises to describe the rules for maintaining social distancing, hygiene protocols, and cleaning and disinfecting.

The Health Department has also compiled [specific safety standards and protocols](#) and a [business checklist](#) for hair salons and barber shops which may reopen on May 25.

Reopening information specific to parks, playing fields and other outdoor recreation areas in Wellesley will be announced in the next few days.

Massachusetts is under at Safer-at-Home advisory which asks residents to [stay at home](#) unless engaging in newly opened activities to continue limiting the spread of COVID-19. [Read the Safer-at-Home Advisory here](#).

Local Town Election Now Scheduled for June 13.

The Town of Wellesley local election that was originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, has been rescheduled for **Saturday, June 13, 2020 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon**. The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved this change at its meeting tonight. In order to provide more space for social distancing and one-way entry and exit, ALL precincts will be voting at the Babson Recreation and Athletic Complex on the Babson Campus. The Town Clerk is looking for individuals to work the polls at Babson on June 13. Interested residents, and especially college students, should email Town Clerk KC Kato at kckato@wellesleyma.gov

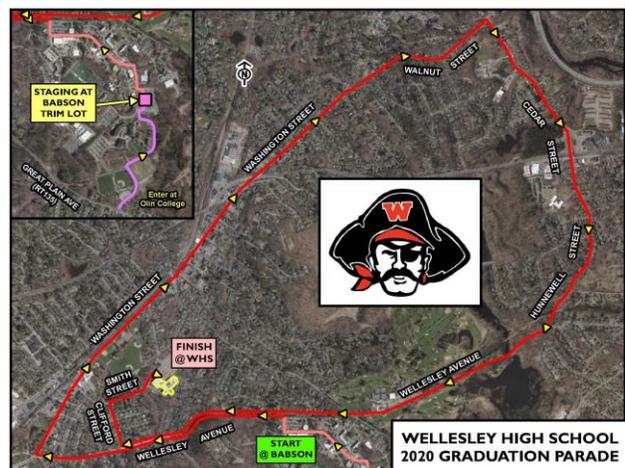
The last day to register to vote in the rescheduled election is June 3 at 8 p.m. Residents are still encouraged to request a ballot by mail and vote safely at home by downloading the [mail-in early voting application](#), filling it out and returning it to the Town Clerk by email or by dropping it into the drop box at Town Hall.

#WellesleyWillBeWell Financial Scam Warning.

The Wellesley Police Department is warning residents about a recent increase in financial scams targeting the elderly. This has occurred in neighboring communities. Callers pose as a relative in trouble and request cash for legal assistance. If you receive such a call, hang up and contact the WPD non-emergency line at 781-235-1212.

Celebrating Wellesley High School Graduates.

Help celebrate the graduation of the Wellesley High School Class of 2020! School administrators and parents have developed a plan to recognize these seniors and this important milestone in their lives. All 380 senior families have received signs to display in their yards – look for them as you travel around Wellesley. On June 6, beginning at 9 a.m. graduates and their families will drive through town in decorated cars in a parade that ends at Wellesley High School where each student will safely receive their diploma. The parade route map is below – please come out to support the Class of 2020!



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