



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: AUGUST 6, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

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

Wellesley Health Department COVID-19 Case Update. *

Total confirmed and probable cases in Massachusetts: 119,643

Total cases in Norfolk County: 10,488

Total cases in Wellesley: 256 (6 new cases in the past 2 weeks)

Total probable cases (positive antibody tests): 90

*Case numbers reflect August 5, 2020 reports.

Massachusetts is seeing an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in recent days. The Commonwealth is reporting 338 new cases today; higher case numbers could delay moving to the next step in Phase 3 of Reopening Massachusetts. While no updates have been announced yet, Public Health officials are closely tracking this data. [See the Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 dashboard.](#)

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.](#)

Wellesley Health Department officials are reporting that some of the new cases in our community can be attributed to residents who may have been infected when traveling in locations outside of Massachusetts.

Travel Order Update: Rhode Island COVID-19 Risk Raised Effective August 7.

The Commonwealth remains under a [travel order](#) that went into effect on August 1. The order requires:

- Visitors and returning Massachusetts residents to complete the Massachusetts Travel Form, unless they are coming from [states identified as low-risk for COVID-19](#);
- Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to arriving in Massachusetts

Please note: As of Friday, August 7, 2020, Rhode Island is no longer considered low-risk and travelers arriving from that state must follow the provisions in the travel order. Exceptions for school, work, or medical care do apply. [See complete travel order information here.](#)

Failure to comply with this order may result in a **\$500 fine per day.**

#MaskUpMA.

State and local officials continue to remind all residents to wear masks or cloth face coverings in public. A new [#MaskUpMA campaign](#) launched last week. [State and local ordinances](#) 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.

Gatherings Reminder.

MDPH officials also urge everyone to remember the restrictions on gatherings that are currently in place. Indoor gatherings are limited to eight people per 1,000 square feet but should not exceed 25 people in a single enclosed, indoor space. Outdoor gatherings in enclosed spaces are limited to 25 percent of the facility's maximum permitted occupancy, with a maximum of 100 people in a single enclosed outdoor space. [Read the Gatherings Order here.](#)

COVID-19 Safe Practices Concern Form.

Please complete this [form](#) if you would like to report possible concerns about non-compliance with the Commonwealth's travel advisory quarantine, face covering, gathering, or other public health rules.

September 1, 2020 Election Information.

Warrants are posted for the 2020 Elections taking place on Tuesday, September 1, the State Primary and the Board of Selectmen Special Election.

Voters may cast ballots in one of three ways: Vote-by-Mail, In-Person Early Voting, and In-Person Election Day Voting. Due to COVID-19, all school-based polling locations have been moved to alternative sites. [Read more here.](#)



Welcome Back to the Library!

The Wellesley Free Library reopened to the public on August 3 for limited service Monday through Saturday. [Visit the Library website for specific information.](#)

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