



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: OCTOBER 15, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

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

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 138,083

[View the COVID-19 daily dashboard.](#)

Total confirmed positive cases in Wellesley: 299 (11 new cases in past 14 days)

State and local Health officials report that the majority of new cases are due to household transmission, especially in multi-generational households living together. Very few cases are now attributed to community spread.

Average Daily Incidence Rate/100,000 for Wellesley: 2.6 (past 14 days)

[Read the Weekly COVID-19 Public Health report.](#)

The Wellesley [Coronavirus Information Hub](#) includes an enhanced dashboard with data on Wellesley COVID-19 cases. The Hub also includes the [COVID-19 community level data map](#) with stoplight colors indicating COVID-19 risk levels by community: red (high risk), yellow (moderate risk), green and white (low risk). Wellesley remains in the **green** (low risk) category.

COVID-19 Testing Now at CVS-Route 9 East.

CVS has expanded its testing locations. [Self-swab testing for COVID-19](#) is now available at the Wellesley CVS on Route 9 East (984 Worcester Street) for people meeting Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 criteria. Patients must [register in advance at CVS.com](#) to schedule a testing appointment. You must be tested in the state where you are a resident.

Wellesley Public Schools Information.

The Wellesley Coronavirus Information Hub includes a dashboard of metrics for Wellesley Public Schools used by the district and the Health Department to determine the closing and re-opening of in-person learning if Wellesley experiences a spike in COVID-19 cases. Go to the [Wellesley Public Schools website](#) for comprehensive WPS information including Health and Safety guidelines.

UPDATED: USDA Free Meals for Kids Program Extended through June 2021. Families receiving free meals for children from schools will now continue to get them through June 30, 2021. [Learn more about the Free Meals for Kids Program.](#) This program is coordinated through Wellesley Public Schools. Non-Wellesley Public Schools families and students who would like to participate should send an email to [Whitsons, the WPS food services provider.](#)

November 3, 2020 Election.



Ballots for the November 3 Presidential and State Election have been mailed! Residents who applied for an Absentee or Vote-by-Mail ballot should be receiving them. PLEASE complete and sign your ballot and return it by mail or deliver it in-person to the secure ballot drop box in front of Town Hall.



Early in-person voting begins October 17 at the Tolles Parsons Center (500 Washington Street). Residents may vote early in-person on Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on weekends from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. [Visit the Town Clerk webpages for complete Election 2020 information.](#)

All residents have the right to vote, free from intimidation and harassment. The Attorney General's office has set up a website with information on voter rights, voting methods, and election protection. Go to [Protect the Vote](#) to learn more.

U.S. Census Forms Due Today.

If you have not completed your U.S. Census form, the deadline to do so is **TODAY, October 15**. Responses may be submitted online at [My2020Census](#) until 11:59 p.m. Hawaii time. The [U.S. Census Bureau](#) will also accept mailed paper census forms if they are postmarked by October 15. Today is also the end date for collecting census phone responses and census door knocking.

Drive-thru Community Flu Clinics.

The Health Department is offering one more drive-thru flu clinic for residents 18 years old and over on October 20 at the Wellesley Municipal Light Plant. Clinics are **appointment only** and residents must sign up in advance online at www.wellesleyma.gov/fluclinic. Everyone is urged to be vaccinated to help lessen the impact of flu cases during the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. [Read flu clinic details here.](#)

Wellesley Free Library Painted Pumpkin Contest.



Celebrate fall and a safe Halloween with WFL! Paint a pumpkin as a character from your favorite book, drop it off at the Library between October 24-26, and win prizes. Decorated pumpkins will be displayed on the Library steps through October 31. Public voting will take place on October 27-30 with winners announced on the [WFL Facebook page](#).

As you plan for Halloween, please remember to follow State health [information for a safe and healthy Halloween](#) during COVID-19 and holiday [guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#).

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