



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: NOVEMBER 6, 2020

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Visit Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

Total confirmed cases in Massachusetts: 160,698

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

PLEASE NOTE: Due to a delay in reports from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, information on Wellesley's COVID-19 Hub will be updated by 5 p.m. on Friday, November 6. This includes the Community Risk Map and Wellesley Public Schools Reopening Metrics.

New COVID-19 Orders Now in Effect.

New executive orders to stop the spread of rising COVID-19 cases in Massachusetts are now in effect.

Statewide Mask Order

- Masks or face coverings are now **mandatory** for everyone over 5 years old, whenever in public, indoors or outdoors, and regardless of the ability to maintain social distancing. Simply put, when not on your own property, you must wear a mask or face covering.
- Face coverings should be snug and cover your nose and mouth.
- Masks or face coverings are required when carpooling/riding with anyone not in your household.
- Children ages 2-5 are encouraged to wear masks, but not required.
- Medical and other mask exemptions still apply but employers and schools can require proof of exempted conditions. Masks may be removed when eating and drinking.
- Businesses may decline entry to customers not wearing a mask or face covering.
- This rule is enforced by the Wellesley Board of Health with assistance from the Wellesley Police Department. Fines may be issued for anyone not following these rules.

Stay at Home Advisory

- All residents are advised to stay home between the hours of 10 p.m. and 5 a.m. (Permitted exceptions are: commuting for work or school, emergency care, essential errands such as emergency care, grocery store or pharmacy trips, take-out food pick up or delivery.)
- Do not have gatherings in your home with anyone outside of your household.
- Use remote methods of communicating (phone, video, computer) instead of visiting friends and family members outside of your household.
- If you go outside to get fresh air or take a walk, wear a mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands.

Along with the Stay at Home advisory, restaurants must stop in-person dining by 9:30 p.m., retail alcohol sales must end by 9:30 p.m., and gyms/recreation areas, entertainment venues, and other businesses must close by 9:30 p.m.

Further Revised Gatherings Order

- Gatherings of any kind are discouraged unless among members of the same household. If you must be with other non-household members, stay at least 6 feet apart.

- Gatherings at **private residences** are limited. Indoors, no more than 10 people. Outdoors, no more than 25 people.
- Gatherings at **public spaces or event venues** are reduced. Indoors, no more than 25 people. Outdoors for higher risk communities, no more than 50 people, and for lower risk communities, no more than 100 people. Wellesley is currently lower risk.
- Any gatherings greater than 50 people must notify the Wellesley Health Department at least one (1) week prior to the event.
- Anyone hosting a gathering or event (private or public) **MUST** immediately notify the Wellesley Health Department if any attendee tests positive for COVID-19.
- These rules are enforced by the Wellesley Board of Health with assistance from the Wellesley Police Department. Hosts and event venues not following this order may be fined up to \$500 for the first offense, **and** up to \$500 for each person over the allowable gathering size limit.

Look for more information and signs in the coming days to remind residents of these new rules.

Accurate contact tracing is critical to stopping the spread of Coronavirus. Please be responsible and help the Health Department by providing complete and timely information about any possible COVID-19 exposures in our community.

Questions? Please [email](#) the Health Department or call 781-235-0315. Thank you to everyone in our community for doing their part to help Stop the Spread.

November 3 Election Support.

Health officials continue to remind residents to support each other while awaiting the outcome of the November 3 election. If you are struggling or just want to talk, social workers are here to help. Please contact Wanda Alvarez at 781-489-4358 or Joyce Saret at 781-489-4354.

Veterans' Salute and Mobile Movie Night.



Window displays saluting Wellesley Veterans are in place in storefronts on Central Street, Church Street, and Washington Street. Wear a mask, stroll the streets, and enjoy the exhibits through November 28.

On **Tuesday, November 10**, the Celebrations Committee and Wellesley Recreation Department are hosting a FREE mobile movie showing of *Midway* (1976 version) beginning at 5 p.m. Space is limited to 40 cars. To attend, register in advance via the [Wellesley Recreation Department online portal](#) or call the Recreation Department at 781-235-2370.

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