



CORONAVIRUS BRIEFING: DECEMBER 29, 2021

THE CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS BRIEFING FOR THE TOWN OF WELLESLEY

Updated CDC Isolation and Quarantine Recommendations



Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 who have no symptoms, or vaccinated individuals who are identified as close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case, may reduce isolation and quarantine time. On Tuesday, December 28, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) announced the [updated recommendations](#). The guidelines are as follows:

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status must:

- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolved after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

If you have a fever or other symptoms, continue to stay home until your fever /symptoms resolve.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

If you: Have been boosted OR completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine less than 6 months ago OR completed the primary series of J&J vaccine less than 2 months ago:

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5, if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

Individuals who were vaccinated more than 6 months ago and have not received a booster, or those who are unvaccinated should:

- Stay home for 5 days.
- After that time period, continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If unable to quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days. •
- Test on day 5 if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

The [Massachusetts Department of Public Health \(MDPH\)](#) and the [Wellesley Health Department](#) have adopted these guidelines.

Rapid Test Kits for Municipalities

On December 29, the State announced it signed contracts with at-home COVID-19 test manufacturers that will allow cities and towns to begin placing orders for rapid test kits at state-negotiated prices. Wellesley Health officials are reviewing this breaking news and will have more information for residents as soon as possible.

If you receive a positive at-home test, please follow up with the PCR test for the most accurate results.

COVID-19 Rapid Test Kits to Schools



Public School teachers and staff can test for COVID-19 before returning to school after the holiday break. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) today announced it will distribute rapid tests to districts over the New Year's weekend. Kits contain two tests; school employees are encouraged to test no more than 24-hours before classes resume on Monday, January 3. The second test may be used later.

Masks continue to be required indoors in all public schools until January 15.

A reminder that COVID-19 data is updated weekly every Friday on Wellesley's COVID-19 Information Hub at www.wellesleyma.gov/coronavirus

New Year Holiday Hours



A reminder that Town of Wellesley offices will close at noon on Thursday, December 30, and be closed all day on Friday, December 31. The Recycling and Disposal Facility (RDF) will be open until 3:45 p.m. on Thursday, December 30 and will close at noon on Friday, December 31. The RDF will be closed all day on Saturday, January 1 and is not open on Sundays

Regular business hours resume on Monday, January 3, 2022. Happy New Year!

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