



# **NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION**



## **Update on COVID-19 From the Town of Needham and Needham Public Health**

April 22, 2020 – The Town of Needham and Needham Public Health today provided the following update regarding COVID-19.

### **State DPH COVID-19 Numbers**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is reporting that as of April 22, 2020 there are:

- 42,944 cases statewide
- 4,212 cases Norfolk County
- 2,182 deaths statewide
- 156 cases in [Needham](#)
- There have been three Needham public safety employees with confirmed cases of COVID-19. All three have recovered.

It's important to remember that most people who are confirmed to have COVID-19 recover. For more state data, visit [www.mass.gov/coronavirus](http://www.mass.gov/coronavirus).

### **A Note About Case Reporting**

Last week, Governor Baker's Administration announced that the state will release confirmed COVID-19 cases by individual community on a weekly basis. The state Department of Public Health will release the information Wednesday afternoons. Because the state now releases the numbers weekly, the Town announced it would no longer publish Needham-specific cases. However, the Town continues to report public safety case numbers on Wednesdays. The State Department of Public Health releases daily COVID-19 case numbers and death numbers. In addition to the total number of individual deaths, the state reports deaths by age, county, sex, previous hospitalization and underlying conditions.

For more information, visit [www.mass.gov/coronavirus](http://www.mass.gov/coronavirus).

### **Gift of Warmth Now Accepting Online Donations for COVID-19 Support**

Residents looking to support their neighbors in need can now donate to the Gift of Warmth online. Gift of Warmth donations are tax deductible and support members of the Needham Community. To donate, visit [www.needhamma.gov/giftofwarmth](http://www.needhamma.gov/giftofwarmth). Be sure to click on the COVID-19 Donation box.

### **Celebrate Arbor Day by Planting Your Own Tree**

Arbor Day is Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Help celebrate Arbor Day in Needham this year by planting your very own tree! Needham DPW's Parks and Forestry Division and Needham Park and Recreation are distributing 400 seedlings for free to Needham residents Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> and Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. This year, Needham is celebrating 25 years as a Tree City USA Town. While staff would normally visit elementary school students to teach them about the importance of trees and how to care for them, due to COVID-19 they are unable. Instead, they're encouraging Needham families to pick up a tree, follow our instructional videos for planting and learn all they can about what makes trees so special. Instructional videos will be posted on the Town's [Facebook](#) page beginning Thursday. Seedlings may be picked up during the following hours at the Rosemary Recreation Complex: **Thursday, April 23, 2020 12 pm – 5 pm** or **Tuesday, April 28, 2020 12 pm – 5 pm**. Seedlings will be handed out on a first come, first served basis.

### **Needham Free Public Library Offering Remote Programming for Patrons of All Ages**

The [Needham Free Public Library](#) is offering access to a host of resources and entertainment options through its website and [Facebook](#) pages. In addition to activities for kids like craft projects and story times, patrons can access digital magazines, e-books, audiobooks and more. eCards are available if you've never had a library card to access the Library's e-resources. Please sign up using a valid email address. A temporary barcode and username will be emailed to you. Visit the [Library](#) website for more.

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