



# **NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION**



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

April 27, 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 27, 2020 there are:

- 56,462 cases statewide
- 5,398 cases Norfolk County
- 3,003 deaths statewide
- 156 cases in Needham (as reported by DPH on 4/22)
- **\*\*NEW INFORMATION:** 33 coronavirus deaths in Needham to date (as reported by the Town Clerk on 4/27)

### **A Note About Death Reporting**

Needham Public Health does not receive official notifications of deaths resulting from COVID-19. While some hospitals or nursing facilities may choose to informally share death information with Needham Health, there is no requirement or formal process for doing so. Further, deaths resulting from COVID-19 may occur in a community outside of a hospital or congregate living facility, including in a private home, for example. There is no requirement that next of kin notify Needham Public Health of those deaths. The Town Clerk is formally notified of deaths from any cause through the filing of death certificates filed with the Town Clerk's Office.

Going forward, Needham Public Health will report the number of COVID-19 deaths every two weeks as informed by the Town Clerk. The next update will be provided by 5 pm on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

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).

### **Board of Health Meets Tuesday to Discuss Face Covering Order**

The Needham Board of Health meets virtually Tuesday at 3 pm to discuss an emergency order/regulation requiring face masks to be worn to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 infectious disease. The proposed Emergency [Order/Regulation](#) seeks to limit the spread of COVID-19 by requiring the use of cloth face coverings in a variety of setting including businesses, work sites, and government buildings. The use of cloth face coverings would likewise be mandated in commercial and residential building complexes. The requirement would apply to employees as well as to customers, visitors, and the general public. To access the meeting, use Zoom Meeting ID: 937-9594-1621.

### **Select Board Meets Tuesday**

The Select Board will meet virtually Tuesday at 6 pm. The agenda includes an update on COVID-19 and discussion about the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting dates. The meeting can be accessed via ZOOM at <https://zoom.us/j/93410141176>.



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## **Summer Camps Cancelled Through June**

Needham Public Health is postponing summer camps scheduled to occur in Needham through June 30, 2020. Until guidance is provided by the State, the Needham Public Health will make future decisions about camps on a month to month basis. Information about July camps will be made available by June 1<sup>st</sup>, or as soon as possible. For questions, contact [publichealthnursing@needhamma.gov](mailto:publichealthnursing@needhamma.gov)

## **Additional Arbor Day Trees Available Tomorrow**

The Parks and Forestry Division and Park and Recreation are distributing additional free trees tomorrow to anyone who would like one to celebrate Arbor Day. Seedlings can be picked up at the Rosemary Recreation Complex between 12 pm and 5 pm. Watch Tree Warden Ed Olsen's instructional videos about tree planting [here](#).

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