



NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



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

March 25, 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 March 25, 2020 there are

- 1838 cases statewide
- 222 Norfolk County
- 15 deaths

Town Launches New COVID-19 Website, Daily Email

The Town of Needham launched a new COVID-19 website today, dedicated to providing up-to-date information and resources to the Needham community during the global coronavirus outbreak.

The new website includes daily updates from Needham Public Health Monday through Friday, frequently asked questions, online tools and links to important information and resources. The site also provides state-level details, updated automatically each day. The website will be updated daily, and additional features may be added as the outbreak continues.

In addition to the website, the Town is now offering residents, employers and others the opportunity to receive daily updates by email or text message. Individuals can sign up here. (After inputting your email or phone number, please be sure to click the email or cell phone icon to complete signup).

The website can be accessed at www.needhamma.gov/coronavirus or by visiting needhamma.gov/health and clicking "Covid-19 (Coronavirus) Information."

Select Board to Meet Friday to Receive COVID update, Discuss Town Election, Town Meeting

The Select Board will meet Friday, March 27th at 3 pm to receive an update from Needham Public Health on COVID-19. The board will also discuss the possibility of rescheduling the Town Election currently scheduled for April 14, 2020 and Town Meeting currently scheduled for May 4, 2020. More information about how to watch the meeting will be available Thursday.

State Closes All Schools, Daycares Until May 4th

Governor Baker announced today that all public and private schools in Massachusetts must close until at least May 4th. This applies to daycares as well. There are 400 emergency daycares open statewide, serving 8,000 children. These daycares are for emergency personnel, first responders, and essential workers like those employed by grocery stores and pharmacies. To find out more visit:

<https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Re-Usable Bags Banned in Grocery Stores, Plastic Bag Bans Lifted Statewide

The Governor announced today that shoppers are prohibited from using reusable bags at grocery stores in an effort to help limit the spread of COVID-19. To accommodate shoppers, stores may use paper or plastic bags. They are not allowed to charge customers for the use of those bags.

Grocery Stores Required to Offer Older Adults Special Time to Shop



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The Governor announced today that grocery stores statewide must offer shoppers 60 years of age and older a special shopping period of one hour per day to limit the number of people they encounter. The order applies to all grocery stores in Needham.

Park and Rec Urges You to Shine on Needham!

Needham Park and Recreation has extended the deadline for their Shine on Needham contest. Residents are encouraged to spread positivity, hope and community by decorating their homes, windows, or yards and sharing their photos on Park and Rec's [Facebook](#) and Instagram Pages. The deadline to be considered a winning decorator is April 1st so get creative!

Donate to the Gift of Warmth

Looking to help your neighbors in Needham during this challenging time? The Gift of Warmth helps families in need during challenging times like these. You can make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to Town of Needham – Gift of Warmth. Checks may be dropped off in the locked dropboxes outside of Town Hall, the Public Services Administration Building or the Rosemary Complex. They can also be mailed to Needham Town Hall, 1471 Highland Ave., Needham, MA 02492.

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