



# NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



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

May 20, 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 May 20, 2020 there are:

- 1,045 new cases today for a total of 88,970 cases statewide
- 7,607 cases in Norfolk County
- 128 new deaths today for a total of 6,066 deaths statewide
- 303 cases in Needham
- 56 coronavirus deaths in Needham to date
- Four public safety employees have had confirmed cases of COVID-19. All four 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).

### **You Asked: What Does the Governor's Safer-At-Home Advisory Mean?**

When Governor Baker released his Re-Opening Massachusetts plan earlier this week, he also announced a Safer-At-Home, rather than Stay at Home advisory. So, what does that mean?

According to the state Department of Public Health, people over the age of 65 and people who have underlying health conditions – who are at high risk for COVID-19 – should continue to stay home except for essential errands such as going to the grocery store and to attend to healthcare needs. All residents are advised to leave home only for healthcare, worship and permitted work, shopping, and outdoor activities.

In addition:

- When going to the pharmacy ask if you can fill your prescriptions for 90 days if possible; for some medications this is not allowed. If you are at high-risk, try to use a mail-order service
- Don't participate in close contact activities such as pick-up sports games
- All residents are **REQUIRED** to cover their face when they cannot maintain six feet of social distance in public
- Parents should limit play dates for children
- Refrain from visiting nursing homes, skilled nursing facilities, or other residential care settings
- All residents are advised to wash their hands frequently for at least 20 seconds with soapy water
- All residents are advised to be vigilant, monitor for symptoms and stay home if you feel sick
- Use remote modes of communication like phone or video chat instead of visiting friends or family who are high risk for COVID-19.

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