



NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



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

March 13, 2020 – Needham Public Health and the Town continue to work to provide updated information to the community and to take actions that will keep all of us safe. We anticipate that in the coming days you will start to see a reduction in the level of services provided by Town departments as we manage this current pandemic. We will provide updates in the coming days with more information for residents and employees.

Other Important Updates

Governor Charlie Baker issued two new important orders.

Large events: The Governor issued an [order](#) limiting large gatherings of 250 or more. Gatherings subject to this order include, but are not limited to: community, civic, public, leisure, faith-based events, sporting events with spectators, concerts, conventions, fundraisers, parades, fairs, festivals, and any similar event or activity that brings together 250 or more persons in a single room or single space at the same time in a venue such as an auditorium, stadium, arena, large conference room, meeting hall, theatre, or any other confined indoor or outdoor space.

Public Meetings: The Governor issued an [order](#) temporarily modifying the state's open meeting law in order to allow state, quasi and local governments to continue to carry out essential functions and operations during the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak. This emergency order suspends the requirement for public access to the physical location where a public meeting is taking place, provided there are other means of access available. This includes the use of a phone conference line for members of the public, social media or other internet streaming services, on-line meeting services, or methods of access.

Mass211: The Governor also announced today that the state has activated the [Mass 211](#) line, a confidential phone line that people may call with questions.

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