



NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION



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

May 13, 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 13, 2020 there are:

- 1,165 new cases today for a total of 80,497 cases statewide
- 7,046 cases in Norfolk County
- 174 new deaths today for a total of 5,315 deaths statewide
- 41 new cases in Needham for a total of 292
- 50 coronavirus deaths in Needham to date (as reported by the Town Clerk on 5/11. Next update will be 5/25)
- 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.

Reminder: Face Covers Required in Any Businesses Open to the Public

A reminder that customers visiting local businesses, including restaurants open for takeout, must wear a face covering. Employees of those businesses must also wear a face cover. This is to protect patrons, employees and employers. Any customer without a face cover can be denied service by a business. Let's all do our part to keep the community safe and healthy.

RTS Announces Summer Hours

Beginning Friday, May 22, 2020, the Recycling and Transfer Station will close at noon on Fridays during the summer. Regular Friday hours will resume Friday, September 11, 2020. Residents are encouraged to visit the RTS during weekday hours if they can better accommodate social distancing and keep themselves and workers safe.

Important Election Deadlines and How to Get Your Absentee/Early Vote by Mail Ballot

The Annual Town Election will be held Tuesday, May 26th. Polls are open 7 am to 4 pm. To practice physical distancing, the Town Clerk is reminding voters that the deadline for submitting absentee or early vote by mail ballots is **noon on Friday, May 22nd**. The deadline for registering to vote is 8 pm Friday, May 15th.

HOW TO GET YOUR BALLOT:

1. Download an [absentee ballot application](#) or [early voting ballot](#).
2. Complete and sign your applications.
3. Email, mail or drop your application in the dropbox for the Town Clerk by **noon on May 22nd**.

Mailed applications can be sent to Town Clerk's Office, 1471 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 02492.

Emailed applications can be sent to Teaton@needhamma.gov

Applications can also be dropped off in the locked dropbox outside Town Hall on Garrity Way (on the side near the Walgreens)



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TOWN HALL IS CLOSED. PLEASE DO NOT ATTEMPT TO DELIVER APPLICATIONS DIRECTLY TO THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE.

All absentee and early vote ballots must be returned by the close of polls on election day, May 26th. Polls are open 7 am to 4 pm at all polling locations.

We want your feedback! Needham's Climate Resiliency Plan

The Town of Needham is developing Climate and Hazard Mitigation plans to prepare for future extreme weather events. The plans will make the Town eligible to apply for funding of town priorities. Due to COVID-19, our in-person feedback session has been cancelled. However, we are still seeking public feedback on the priorities that should be included in the plans. To learn about potential hazards facing Needham and provide your feedback please visit our dedicated [website](#). The site includes a short survey where you can offer your comments and suggestions about how Needham can best be prepared. Feedback provide by May 18, 2020 will be included in the final MVP report.

Some Good News From the Community - Needham SEPAC Honors Teachers and Staff

On May 11, 2020, Needham SEPAC (Special Education Parent Advisory Council) announced the recipients of their 2020 SEPAC Awards. Thirteen Needham staff members and teachers were recognized for outstanding work with special education students. The annual awards were established in 2011 to honor those who have made an outstanding difference in the lives of students with special needs. While the ceremony had to unfortunately be cancelled this year, you can learn more about each of the recipients at needhamsepac.org.

Have good news to share? Send an email to goodnews@needhamma.gov

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