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# TOWN OF KINGSTON

*Office of the Board of Selectmen*

*Town House*

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*Kingston, Massachusetts 02364*

[www.kingstonmass.org](http://www.kingstonmass.org)

*Board of Selectmen  
Joshua Warren, Chairman  
Elaine A. Fiore, Vice Chairman  
Sandra D. MacFarlane, Clerk  
Tammy Murray  
Jessica Kramer*

*Town Administrator/  
Chief Procurement Officer  
Thomas J. Calter III*

## Advisory #6

Thursday, March 19, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

This afternoon the Massachusetts Department of Public Health announced that there were no new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Plymouth County since yesterday's report of 5 confirmed cases. We ask that you continue to monitor [www.kingstonmass.org](http://www.kingstonmass.org) for news from Kingston's Emergency Management Team. We have provided links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on the Town's website.

The Town of Kingston offers residents the use of our Blackboard Connect service, our town-resident notification system. This service allows leaders to send voice messages to residents and business within minutes with specific information about time-sensitive or common-interest issues such as emergencies and local community matters. The Connect service is used to supplement our current communication plans and augment public safety and first responder services. If you are not currently signed up to receive Blackboard Connect updates, please visit: [www.kingstonmawebportal.bbcportal.com/](http://www.kingstonmawebportal.bbcportal.com/).

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As mentioned in yesterday's "Advisory #5," all home inspections conducted by the Kingston Fire Department were temporarily put on hold as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Earlier today the Kingston Fire Department successfully conducted their first virtual inspection that satisfies their requirements, while also minimizing the risk of exposure for their staff. The temporary procedures that have been put in place will allow for those who are in the process of buying and selling homes in Kingston to proceed without interruption. The department will communicate the temporary process to applicants who have contacted them.

In related news, the Kingston Fire Department recently started a Facebook page to enhance communications with residents. If you would like to follow the Kingston Fire Department on Facebook, please "Like" Kingston Fire & Emergency Management.

Members of the Kingston Emergency Management Team participated in this afternoon's posted Board of Health meeting. We discussed the guidelines that have been given by Governor Baker, and the enforcement of those directives. All Kingston businesses that involve physical contact with customers, not allowing for the recommended 6' social distancing guidelines, have been ordered to close effective Friday, March 20, 2020 at 12:00 PM. This includes hair salons, nail salons, massage and facial care parlors. Additional close orders have been issued to gyms, health clubs, workout facilities, tanning and spraying facilities. With written permission from the Kingston Board of Health, these businesses may reopen on March 30, 2020. At

that time, it may also be determined that the order to close will be extended beyond March 30th. This order does not apply to medical facilities, doctors' offices, or doctor prescribed physical therapy services. Child care centers have been given close orders, effective today; however, they may remain open to care for the children of Kingston's first responders, medical care workers, and others who are working on the "front lines" of this pandemic.

After receiving a recommendation from Kingston's Animal Control Officer, the Chief of Police, and the Fire Chief, and in collaboration with the Friends of Kingston Dogs and Kingston's Emergency Management Team, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously (4-0-0) at today's posted 12:00 PM meeting, to close the Boneyard Dog Park effective immediately. The park will remain closed until further notice. While we recognize that the Boneyard provides residents with a venue to exercise their dogs, the decision to close the park was made in an effort to promote social distancing and bring consistency to park closures throughout the Town of Kingston.

Yesterday afternoon PACTV aired a live COVID-19 Update. State Rep. Kathy LaNatra, Vice Chair of the Board of Selectmen and President of the Friends of the Kingston Council on Aging, Elaine Fiore, Director of Elder Affairs, Paula Rossi-Clapp, and I sat with Julie Thompson, Executive Director to discuss Kingston's response to the ongoing pandemic and what services are available to residents. The update will be airing on Kingston's government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42) and online at [www.pactv.org](http://www.pactv.org).

Beginning tomorrow, March 20, 2020, "grab and go" lunches will be available for Silver Lake Regional School District families who are eligible to receive free or reduced meals and who have completed the survey provided by SLRSD, or have called into the Food Services Director. If you qualify but did not complete the survey and would like a lunch for your child, please call Megan Ahrenholz at 781-582-3556.

To ensure the safety of residents and Town employees, the Kingston Town House will be fully staffed but closed to the public until further notice. There is a drop-off box with a mail slot located to the right of the entry door at the Town House. This is typically used for payments and will now be utilized for any materials that you wish to deliver. Please label your documents with the intended department and we will make sure the appropriate person receives the information. If you have any questions, please call or email the appropriate department, board, or committee. Contact information can be found on the Town's website, [www.kingstonmass.org](http://www.kingstonmass.org). Staff will be available via phone and email.

Additional information regarding building closures is as follows:

Kingston Council on Aging – Group programs are cancelled until further notice. The office will be staffed for outreach services, answer phones, and support transportation requests.

Kingston's Fire Department – Kingston's fire stations are closed to public access, unless you have a medical or other emergency. If you have any business to conduct, please call 781-585-0532. As always, in the event of a medical emergency, call 9-1-1.

Kingston Public Library – The Library is closed to the public until further notice. A list of their online services and offerings can be found at [www.kingstonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.kingstonpubliclibrary.org).

The Adams Center – The Adams center is closed to the public until further notice. All programs are suspended until future notice.

Recreation – Gray's Beach Park, the Reed Community Center and surrounding outside properties, and the Opachinski Athletic Complex are closed to the public until further notice, and programming at the Faunce School is suspended until further notice.

The Boneyard Dog Park – The Boneyard Dog Park is closed to the public until further notice.

Schools – All schools are currently closed until Monday, April 6, 2020. Per the request of the SLRSD towns, all playgrounds and athletic fields are closed due to social distancing and surface area contamination concerns until further notice. This includes playgrounds on all school campuses.

If you or someone you know requires additional support in the coming weeks, please do not hesitate to call the appropriate contact person below:

Elderly Services & Residents with Disabilities: Paula Rossi-Clapp, Director of Elder Affairs / 781-585-0511

EMS: Mark Douglass, Fire Chief and Adam Hatch, Deputy Fire Chief / 781-585-0532

General Information: Thomas Calter / 508-717-1483

Board of Health: Arthur Boyle / 781-585-0503

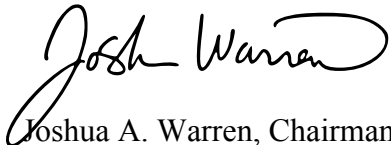
**For All Medical Emergencies Call 9-1-1**

We will be checking voicemails regularly and will work diligently to direct residents to the appropriate resources as quickly as possible. The daily operations within the Town of Kingston are still up and running.

Efforts to respond to and contain COVID-19 are rapidly changing, but our priority is to serve and support Kingston residents, employees, and businesses through the continuity of basic services and operations. We acknowledge that COVID-19 will significantly impact the lives of all those in our community, but we ask that you take a thoughtful and measured approach to keeping yourselves, your families, and your neighbors safe by following the news and recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, both on the Kingston Board of Health website.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua A. Warren". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joshua A. Warren, Chairman  
Board of Selectmen