



Tel: 781-585-0500
Fax: 781-585-0534

TOWN OF KINGSTON

Office of the Board of Selectmen

Town House

26 Evergreen Street

Kingston, Massachusetts 02364

www.kingstonmass.org

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Elaine A. Fiore, Vice Chairman
Sandra D. MacFarlane, Clerk
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*Town Administrator/
Chief Procurement Officer
Thomas J. Calter III*

Advisory #63

Thursday, May 14, 2020

To the Residents of Kingston,

As of 5:15 PM this evening the Massachusetts Department of Public Health had not released today's total number of COVID-19 cases for Plymouth County. Today's totals will be reflected in tomorrow's "Advisory #64". **As of this afternoon at 3:30 PM the Town's total number of confirmed positive COVID-19 cases remains at 72.** Of the Town's total number of confirmed positive cases, 35 are from one facility. Our Health Agent and Public Safety Officers will continue to monitor these local cases. Due to privacy requirements, the demographics of these cases will remain anonymous.

Kingston's Emergency Management Team met today to discuss the Town's ongoing response to COVID-19. Fire Chief Mark Douglass provided an update on the task force that has been formed to manage the reopening of Kingston's buildings and facilities. Facilities Manager Brad Norman and Kingston Town Employees Union representative Chris Woods have now met with the majority of department heads to gather input regarding the physical configuration of offices and workspaces. Brad has ordered all of the safety shields that will be installed in offices that regularly interface with members of the public. Some have been received, and installations are underway. In the coming days, the task force will begin to develop policies and procedures regarding the movement and traffic flow of persons in the Town House, and will draft a series of standard operating procedures that will take into account the health and safety of staff and members of the public.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women (MCSW) was unable to hold their annual Women's Advocacy Day at the State House. In partnership with the Plymouth County Commission on the Status of Women, the MCSW wants to provide space for constituents to share their areas of concern and provide testimony specific to their region. The MCSW is hosting an online community meeting tonight, Thursday, May 14, from 7:00 – 8:00 PM to review key findings of their recent report specific to how COVID-19 has impacted women in our region. If you would like to be part of the conversation, please register for the event by visiting <https://bit.ly/2At7esk>.

The Kingston Recreation Department is soliciting feedback from families as to how they may utilize the department's summer program offerings. They have created a quick five question online survey that will help them develop summer programming, whether it be traditional summer programming as they've offered in the past, or virtual programming in light of the ongoing challenges presented by COVID-19. To complete the survey, please visit <https://bit.ly/2AnLmhS>.

Tomorrow at 10:30 AM PACTV will air a live COVID-19 Update for the Town of Kingston. The program will feature Fire Chief Mark Douglass, who will provide an update on the work being done to safely and responsibly reopen Town buildings and facilities. Plymouth County Commissioner Dan Pallotta will also discuss the County's efforts to administer \$90 million in federal CARES Act funding, which will be distributed to the 27 municipalities within Plymouth County. The program will be broadcast on PACTV's website, as well as on Kingston's government channels (Comcast 15 and Verizon 42).

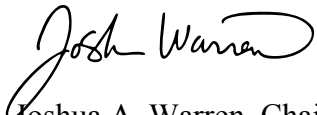
Due to the Governor's Order there will be no brush chipping offered at the Transfer Station during the month of May. The next scheduled date for brush chipping at the Transfer Station will be Saturday, June 20th.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's Executive Order, effective, Wednesday, May 6th, everyone in the Commonwealth is required to wear a face mask or similar covering in public. This order includes those entering businesses, spending time outdoors, or traveling on public transportation, if they are unable to socially distance themselves from others. The Department of Public Health, local boards of health, and authorized agents pursuant to G. L. c. 111, § 30 are authorized to enforce this Order and if necessary may do so with the assistance of State or municipal police. Violation of the terms of this Order may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation. Please see the attached announcement regarding Governor Baker's Executive Order from the Kingston Board of Health.

The Special State Senate Election is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, 2020. Poll hours will be from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM. The Town Clerk's Office has asked that we take this opportunity to communicate the following announcement to precinct 4 voters, also delineated in the attached notice: Due to challenges presented by COVID-19, the Town House will not be open for voting. All Precinct 4 voters who plan to vote in person will be able to cast their ballots at the Kingston Elementary School (100 Main St., Kingston, MA). As of now, this change of venue only applies to the Special State Senate Election. **All voters are asked to wear face masks or similar coverings to protect themselves, their neighbors, and all of our poll workers.**

Lastly, Assistant Town Clerk Diane Poirier shared that from April 12th through May 12th, there were 198,002 views of the COVID-19 page on the Town of Kingston's website. This accounted for 61% of the overall traffic on the Town's website. In comparison, the next most frequented page was the Meeting Calendar, which had 33,605 views. I want to extend my thanks to all of you who are visiting the Town's website to become informed on how COVID-19 is impacting your community. Please continue to visit www.kingstonmass.org for daily updates from Kingston's Emergency Management Team, as well as links to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) websites.

Thank you for practicing social distancing,



Joshua A. Warren, Chairman
Board of Selectmen



KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH

26 EVERGREEN STREET
KINGSTON MASSACHUSETTS 02364
TELEPHONE (781) 585-0503

On May 1, 2020, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, issued an order effective 12:01 am, Wednesday, May 6, 2020, requiring individuals to wear masks in public places. This guidance is issued pursuant to that Order to further clarify who is required to wear masks and any exceptions.

Any person who is in a place open to the public in the Commonwealth, when unable to maintain a distance of approximately six feet from every other person, shall cover their mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face-covering. Masks are required at all times when:

- Inside or waiting in line outside of grocery stores, pharmacies, and other retail stores;
- Providing or using the services of any taxi, car, livery, ride-sharing, or similar service;
- On any form of public transit, including train or bus; and
- In an enclosed or semi-enclosed transit stop or waiting area.

The use of a mask does not replace important social distancing measures. All individuals must continue to maintain more than 6 feet of distance from other people; wash hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; and stay home when sick.

Children under the age of 2 years should not wear face coverings or masks. For children 2 years of age and older, a mask or face covering should be used, if possible. Mask use by children 2 years of age and up to the age of five is encouraged but should be at the discretion of the child's parent or guardian at this time. Parents and guardians should ensure that the mask fits snugly and does not obstruct a child's ability to breathe.

The fit of face coverings should be as follows:

- Fit securely and comfortably against the side of the face;
- Be secured with ties or ear loops;
- Allow for breathing without restriction; and
- Be able to laundered and machine dried without damage or change of shape.

Exceptions for wearing face masks include situations that may inhibit an individual from wearing a face-mask safely. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Those who cannot breathe safely;
- Those who, due to a behavioral health diagnosis, are unable to do so;



KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH

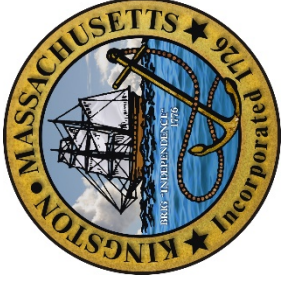
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- Those communicating with people who rely upon lip-reading;
- Those who require supplemental oxygen to breathe; and
- Those who are exercising outdoors and are able to keep physical distance from others.

Masks and face coverings should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use. When possible, masks should be washed in a washing machine. If a washing machine is unavailable, masks should be washed with soap and water and allow drying fully before using again.

The Department of Public Health, local boards of health, and authorized agents pursuant to G. L. c. 111, § 30 are authorized to enforce this Order and if necessary may do so with the assistance of State or municipal police. Violation of the terms of this Order may result in a civil fine of up to \$300 per violation.

Thank you for helping keep Kingston safe and healthy during this Public Health Emergency.



Special State Senate Election

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

Poll Hours: 7:00am – 8:00pm

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PRECINCT 4 VOTERS

Voting at the Town House will not be available as has been in the past. You may cast your ballot at the Kingston Elementary School Cafeteria, 100 Main Street, Kingston for this Election only.

This is only for the May 19 Special Election!

The precinct will return to the Town House for Precinct 4 Voters after May 19 unless additional notification is received.

Please wear face masks and protect yourself, your neighbors and the pollworkers.