

FAQs Frequently Asked Questions

Last updated 8/10/20

Q. Is the Board of Health taking actions to prevent travelers from outside of Massachusetts coming Westport to transmit the Covid-19 virus?

A. Effective August 1st, all visitors entering Massachusetts, **including returning residents**, are required to:

1. Complete the online [Massachusetts Travel Form](#) prior to arrival, unless they are visiting from a lower-risk state designated by the Department of Public Health.
2. Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to arrival in Massachusetts.

As of 8/7/20 the only lower risk states are NY, NY, CT, VT, NH & ME. Rhode Island was added to the higher risk category due to rising case metrics. Currently the BOH recommends that residents minimize any non-essential travel to Rhode Island.

There are some exemptions for transitory travel through Massachusetts, commuting for work or school, for medical treatment and military personnel. More guidance can be found here <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>.

Failure to comply may result in a **\$500 fine per day**, which will generally be enforced through the Department of Public Health.

The Town has established a Resource Center that provides information on how residents and travelers under quarantine can arrange for the delivery of food and other necessities to their homes. <https://www.westport-ma.com/covid-19-corona-virus-information/pages/resources-residents>.

Q. Can the Board of Health enforce the practice of keeping a distance of 6 feet from each other to help prevent the transmission of the COVID-19 virus?

A. Yes.

The Governor's Order authorizes local officials to enforce the self-distancing rule. The first offense will result in a warning, the second may result in a civil citation with a fine up to \$300 and repeated and willful offenses may result in a criminal penalty of up to \$500 or imprisonment, or both. Enforcement actions can apply both to individuals and to stores that do not take appropriate steps to ensure customers and employees maintain safe separation.

Q. What do I need to do if I come in contact with a person who was showing symptoms of COVID-19, but has not been tested or results have not come back?

A. If you have been closer than 6 feet for at least 15 minutes, you need to self-quarantine. Guidance on self-quarantine can be found here: <https://www.westport-ma.com/home/files/quarantine-info-guide>

Q. Do I need to self-quarantine if I come in contact with a person who was in contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19?

A. No, based on current guidance you don't have to. However, if you have any health concerns please contact your doctor.

Q. Is the BOH tracing people who have in contact with others who have tested positive for COVID-19?

A. Yes, on a daily basis.

More...

[FAQs from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts](#)

[FAQs from the Centers for Disease Control](#)