



TOWN OF WESTPORT
WESTPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 02790

OFFICE OF BOARD OF HEALTH
856 MAIN ROAD

Tel: (508) 636-1015
Fax: (508) 636-1016
Health@Westport-MA.gov
westport-ma.com

Matthew J. Armendo
Director

Westport Board of Health COVID-19 Update

April 13, 2020

Case Update: Total number of confirmed COVID-19 positive cases in the Town of Westport as of April 13, 2020 is **12**. After a few days of no additional cases, the count jumped by 3 on Sunday, with no new cases today. Four persons have recovered to date. Case numbers in town have been adjusted to reflect updated information from the state's database (MAVEN) for specific individuals.

Statewide there have been 26,867 cases and 844 deaths as of April 13th. The peak of new cases in Massachusetts is expected to come within the next week. The state has been successful in flattening the curve, however new cases will continue to arise and the Board of Health urges everyone to keep up with the recommended precautions of wearing face masks in public, maintain social distancing and handwashing standards, stay home as much as possible. See Dept. of Public Health guidance here:

<https://www.mass.gov/news/advisory-regarding-face-coverings-and-cloth-masks>

The Health Department will update the public daily (if needed) by 4:30PM with any new developments or changes in Town operations, including confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Westport, on the [COVID-19 INFORMATION PAGE](#):

1. Cases of Covid-19 in Westport
2. BOH Updates & Directives
3. E-Alerts for important updates to the COVID-19 INFORMATION PAGE – You must subscribe (<https://www.westport-ma.com/subscribe>) to get an email.

Other COVID related news

1. The Town's COVID-19 Information page has been updated to reflect added FAQ information.
2. The town's first temporary Food Pantry pickup served over 50 families today. Everyone received 1 or 2 bags of groceries by a no contact drive-through system set up at the Town Hall Annex. Thanks go to Dana Stewart, Carol Freitas and two volunteers. All available groceries were distributed. More donations are needed. Donation days are Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 am to noon. The next food pantry pick up is scheduled for April 20th. Donation details are at: <https://www.westport-ma.com/covid-19-corona-virus-information/pages/home-delivery-and-donations>

3. Board of Health and certain other town department land-use related permit timelines have been temporarily extended under a new law passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Baker on April 3rd ([Chapter 53 of the Acts of 2020](#)). Generally, any requirement for a hearing or action to approve a permit approval is suspended until 45 days after the expiration of the State of Emergency. A permit in effect or existence as of March 10, 2020, shall not lapse or otherwise expire during the State of Emergency. Town Counsel has issued [guidance](#) for the Town to follow.
4. Front line grocery workers have been prioritized along with first responders for COVID-19 testing. Grocery workers can be tested, regardless of whether they are symptomatic, by appointment at one of the two dedicated drive-through test sites for first responders in Foxborough across from Gillette Stadium and at the Big E in West Springfield. Workers should make an appointment through their supervisor.
5. Health care professionals and others with area expertise looking to contribute to the fight against COVID-19 either by volunteering or applying for COVID-19 specific work can now search for opportunities at one location: <https://mass.gov/joincovidteam>.
6. New guidance on unemployment assistance is available on the state website at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/update-massachusetts-department-of-unemployment-assistance-announces-guidance-on-cares>
7. The state has expanded SafeLink (877-785-2020), the Commonwealth's statewide, 24/7, toll-free and confidential domestic violence hotline to now include resources and support for survivors of sexual assault. This hotline is designed for crisis intervention support for those who need assistance in safety planning measures for both themselves and their families. This resource is now available through the 2-1-1 line as an additional method for victims to access help and resources.

Stay safe everyone.

Matthew J. Armendo, Director
Westport Health Department