



**TOWN OF WESTPORT**  
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**Matthew J. Armendo**  
Director

**Westport Board of Health COVID-19 Update**

**May 21, 2020**

**Case Update:** Total number of state confirmed COVID-19 positive cases in the Town of Westport as of May 20, 2020 is **68, an increase of 7 from last week**. The state's weekly reporting of the number of COVID-19 cases and case rates by community is issued every Wednesday afternoon and our [COVID-19 Case reporting page](#) will provide a link to the complete state report each week.

Unfortunately the Health Department has one new death to report, with 4 persons still in the hospital. On the positive side, **49** persons have recovered to date.

Statewide there have been **88,970** cases and **6,066** deaths as of May 20th. The state has entered Phase 1 of re-opening and is beginning to allow lower-risk business sectors to open under strict guidelines. More detail is provided below.

As I continue to remind everyone each week, COVID-19 may flare up again so we need to remain vigilant with social distancing, wearing masks and good handwashing practices for the health of ourselves, our friends, neighbors and fellow residents.

The Health Department will update the public weekly or as needed with any new developments or changes in Town operations on the [COVID-19 INFORMATION PAGE](#).

Please subscribe to E-alerts (<https://www.westport-ma.com/subscribe>) to receive important email updates on COVID-19.

**Other COVID-related news:**

1. **Phase 1 Reopening** – Phase 1 keeps in place existing restrictions, advisories and guidance but provides exceptions for certain activities that can resume safely.
  - Businesses listed in the table below can restart operations on May 18 or May 25. ***All other businesses and workplaces remain closed through Phase 1.*** No business is required to re-open and no business can reopen until it is ready.
  - All businesses in Phase 1 **must** meet mandatory safety standards & sector specific protocols before re-opening. This includes social distancing, employees wearing masks, handwashing & sanitizing, cleaning & disinfecting and training requirements: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts#sector-specific-protocols-and-best-practices>



<u>May 18</u>	<u>May 25</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Essential businesses already operating must self-certify and comply with applicable standards by May 25.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Manufacturing</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Construction</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Places of worship (40% occupancy limit)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Firearms retailers and shooting ranges</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Lab spaces/life sciences facilities</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Offices limited to &lt; 25% maximum occupancy; work from home strongly encouraged</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Car Washes exterior and self-service only</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Hair salons/barber shops by appointment only</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Pet grooming by appointment (curbside drop-off and pick-up)</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Retail/auto dealers - curbside pickup only</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Certain outdoor recreational facilities and activities</b></li> </ul>

- Employees, customers and member of the general public who have complaints about business non-compliance with state mandated requirements related to COVID-19 can contact the Board of Health or the Department of Labor Standards (508-616-0461)

2. **Governor Baker's Face Mask Order remains in place.** A new "[stay safer at home](#)" advisory requests that individuals stay at home when they can. Gatherings of 10 or more persons are still not allowed, except in unconfined outdoor spaces. All individuals are still required to wear a face covering in most places when outside of the home. [ORDER](#) | [GUIDANCE](#)

### 3. Town Updates

- **Local election rescheduled to June 23<sup>rd</sup>.** The BOH continues to urge mail in voting to reduce risk of potential exposure to coronavirus. Click [HERE](#) for mail in ballot information. All precincts will be open on June 23<sup>rd</sup> with safety & hygiene protocols in place for those who vote in person.
- **Town Buildings remain closed.** A municipal task force has drafted a plan for a safe, phased re-opening in compliance with state requirements. Entry into Town Hall and the Annex by appointment will be the first step, likely beginning on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Library and COA are coordinating with their fellow agencies in other towns to ensure a smooth re-opening for their facilities as well.
- **The town's temporary Food Pantry at the Town Hall Annex Gym, 856 Main Road** pickup days are Mondays 9 am to noon. Donation days are Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9 am to noon. The next food pantry



pick-up is scheduled for Monday, May 25th. [WESTPORT FOOD PANTRY](#)

- **Updated resources on Town's COVID page:** We have added new information on the phased re-opening for businesses.

The town's COVID-19 page also publishes links to the [daily MEMA situation reports](#), which provide an excellent summary of the most recent news and links to resources. You can also visit the state's COVID-19 page at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information>

Stay safe everyone.

Matthew J. Armendo, Director  
Westport Health Department