



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

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

**June 11, 2020**

**Case Update:**

Total number of state confirmed COVID-19 positive cases in the Town of Westport as of June 10, 2020 is **95, up 8 from last week.**

1236 Westport residents have been tested to date, an increase of 145 since last week. **Results from these tests show a positive rate of 7.69% - which has trended down slightly.** The state's weekly reporting town specific data is issued every Wednesday afternoon and our [COVID-19 Case reporting page](#) will provide a link to the complete state report each week.

As previously reported, Westport has lost **6** current Westport residents to COVID; as well as two former residents who passed away in nearby nursing homes. Three residents remain hospitalized. On the positive side, **69** persons have recovered to date. Statewide there have been 104,156 cases and 7,454 deaths as of June 10th.

Governor Baker announced on Saturday that Phase 2 step 1 of reopening Massachusetts would begin on June 8<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found below and on the Town's [COVID Information Page](#). There you can also find links to the [daily MEMA situation reports](#), which provide an excellent summary of the most recent state level COVID-19 news and links to resources.

The Board of Health will do its best to answer any COVID- related questions for local businesses and programs. You can also call Rep. Paul Schmid's office at 508-567-5675 for assistance.

As we move toward normalcy, we need to keep in mind that 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.

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

**Other COVID-related news:**

**Phase 2 Opening – Step 1 began June 8th.** All Phase 2 step 1 operations will have to meet mandatory COVID-19 safety standards & sector specific protocols before re-opening. The safety standards can be located on the Mass.Gov webpage under the

COVID-19 tab - Reopening Massachusetts, or a copy can be provided through the BoH Office.

Phase 2 step 1 includes but is not limited to;

- Restaurants – Take-out and outdoor seating only, when possible take reservations, or call ahead seating to minimize any congregation of patrons who might be waiting for a table.
- Lodgings & Hotels- No events or functions at this time
- Retail- With Occupancy Limits
- Childcare & Day Camps
- Warehouse & Distribution Centers
- Non close contact Personal Services, such as home cleaning services
- Youth & Amateur Sports- and outdoor recreation facilities

Any restaurant in Westport that wants to expand to outdoor seating, including serving of alcohol, has two weeks to submit their completed permit with all local reviews and approval. The special permit application is on the town webpage <https://www.westport-ma.com/home/news/outdoor-seating-alcohol-licensees-please-read>

Gatherings of more than 10 in an indoor or outdoor confined space is still prohibited.

Gatherings of more than 10 in an outdoor unconfined space is allowed with the proper social distancing, but only if the type of gathering is not otherwise prohibited.

Street festivals, agricultural festivals, walk-a-thons, road races and bike races, and other outdoor organized athletic or recreational events that gather large numbers of people are still prohibited.

For a complete list of all that is allowed in Phase 2 step 1, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-when-can-my-business-reopen>

***Phase 2 Step 2 will come at a later date, yet to be determined.***

- Indoor seating at restaurants- with restrictions
- Close personal contact services- with restrictions

#### **As a reminder**

- The Board of Health has been doing spot checks of local businesses to verify they have documented their compliance with all the COVID safety protocols, which will continue with Phase 2 businesses. The BOH's goal is to educate and promote compliance.
- Employees, customers and members 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)
- **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. All

individuals are still required to wear a face covering in most places when outside of the home. [ORDER](#) | [GUIDANCE](#)

#### **Town Updates:**

- **Annual Town Meeting.** The Board of Selectmen is considering the option to move the Annual Town meeting to White's of Westport, likely on July 21 or 28. Check the town website for any further updates.
- **Local election on 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 Building re-opening updates:**
  - **Town playgrounds remain closed** until daily sanitization requirements can be met.
  - **Town Hall and Annex** – entry by appointment only.
  - **The Library & COA** are still closed
  - **Town beaches and landings** – open.
- **Needle/syringe disposal** – Residents who wish to dispose of medical sharps through the secure kiosk in the Town Hall Annex can schedule a pre-arranged drop-off by contacting the Town Nurse or the Board of Health. Only needles in the proper container (hard plastic detergent or bleach bottles with screw-on tops or red biohazard sharps containers) can be accepted. Do NOT leave sharps in the drop off box outside – that is not safe!
- **The town's temporary Food Pantry at the Town Hall Annex Gym, 856 Main Road.** Groceries are distributed to residents in need on Mondays from 9 am to noon. Fresh produce has also been generously donated and is being distributed as available. Donation days are Tuesday and Thursday mornings also from 9 am to noon. The next food pantry pick-up is scheduled for Monday, June 15th.  
[WESTPORT FOOD PANTRY](#)

Stay safe everyone. Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Matthew J. Armendo, Director  
Westport Health Department