



TOWN OF WESTPORT
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Westport Board of Health COVID-19 Update

July 2, 2020

Case update:

Total number of state confirmed COVID-19 positive cases in the Town of Westport as of July 1, 2020 is **98, up 1 from last week. The continued low rate of new cases is excellent news.**

1590 Westport residents have been tested to date. Results from these tests show a positive rate of **6.16%** - which is showing a consistent downward trend. 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 reports each week.

We have had no new deaths in town to report for almost a month now. I hope that trend also continues. Statewide there have been **109,143** cases and **8,081** deaths as of July 1st.

As we head into summer and the Fourth of July weekend, it is important to remember that while the virus seems to be under control in Massachusetts, we cannot let our guard down. Keep your events outdoors when possible, limit the number of guests and maintain social distancing, mask wearing, use of disinfectant and handwashing, especially in any crowded places. If you feeling unwell, please stay home and avoid putting friends and family at risk. We have seen the effects of early re-opening and lack of precautions in other states that are causing an explosion of cases there. So we need to stay vigilant. This virus will be with us for a long while to come and we all will need to adapt to a new normal.

Beaches: Visitors are required to maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet or more at all times and visitors should maintain at least 12 feet minimum distance between towel/beach blanket areas. Toweling/Beach blanket groups are limited to groups no larger than 10. No-contact ball games such as catch, kadima, Kan Jam and bocce can be allowed.

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

Other COVID-related news:

Updated travel guidance: Effective July 1, the guidance that travelers arriving to Massachusetts (including residents returning home) are to self-quarantine for 14-days no longer applies to travelers from Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New York or New Jersey. Workers designated by the federal

government as essential critical infrastructure workers are also exempt from this directive.

Travelers who are displaying symptoms of COVID-19 are instructed to not travel to Massachusetts.

All visitors and residents of Massachusetts are also reminded that the use of masks or face coverings in public places where individuals cannot socially distance from others is still required. [ORDER](#) | [FACE MASK GUIDANCE](#)

Phase 3 Opening – Will begin July 6th.

This phase includes fitness centers & gyms (40% capacity), museums, moderate capacity movie theatres & performance venues. Bars and nightclubs will still not be able to open until Phase 4. More specifics will be available soon on the state website.

The state has also provided more guidance to on purchasing necessary supplies:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-purchasing-hygienic-or-protective-supplies-for-the-workplace>

All operations will have to meet mandatory COVID-19 safety standards & sector specific protocols before re-opening and while open. The safety standards can be located on the Mass.Gov webpage under the COVID-19 tab – labeled Reopening Massachusetts, or a copy can be provided through the BoH Office.

Reminders

- Gatherings of more than 10 in an indoor or outdoor confined space are still prohibited.
- Gatherings of more than 10 in an outdoor unconfined space are 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 will not be allowed until Phase 3 or 4.

Town Updates:

- **Annual Town Meeting:** The Board of Selectmen voted yesterday to change the date and location of the meeting. **It is now RESCHEDULED to Saturday July 25th at 9 AM at the field behind the High School.** More details on health and safety protocols will be posted in the coming weeks. The warrant is available [HERE](#).
- **Town Building re-opening updates:**
 - **Town Hall and Annex** – Closed for the holiday on Friday, July 3rd. Starting July 6th, offices in these buildings will be open to the public, however service by phone, mail, outdoor dropbox, or online is still highly recommended. Face masks are required for in person visits.
 - **Transfer Station** – Open regular hours (Thursday through Monday 8:30 am to 3 pm) except CLOSED on Saturday, July 4th. Face mask required.

- **Recreation** – Some outdoor programs are being offered this summer, including tennis and yoga. Please check out their website for the latest details: <https://www.westport-ma.com/recreation-department>
- **Town playgrounds** – Open. Please observe the hygiene and safety protocols that have been posted at each location.
- **The Library & COA building** - Still closed, however you can check their websites for programming details.
- **The town's temporary Food Pantry is at the Town Hall Annex Gym, 856 Main Road.** The next food pantry pick-up is scheduled for Monday, July 6th. Food donation days are Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Dana Stewart is working on a long-term plan for the food pantry. More details to come.
[WESTPORT FOOD PANTRY](#)

Stay safe everyone and have a Happy 4th of July! Thank you for your continued cooperation.

Matthew J. Armendo, Director
Westport Health Department