



**OFFICE OF THE
Board of Selectmen
Town of Dunstable
Town Hall, 511 Main Street
Dunstable, MA 01827
(978) 649 4514 ext. 224**



Monday, June 22, 2020

To all residents of the Town of Dunstable from the Board of Selectmen:

On March 16, 2020, the Board of Selectmen met in an emergency meeting and declared a local state of emergency in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, and Emergency Management Team have been meeting on a weekly basis and continue to monitor legislative, regulatory, and health developments that affect the operation of Town government. As it appears the infection rates are trending downward due to the measures taken during the shutdown, the Board is going to resume a biweekly schedule and prepare to re-open more services to the public. Assuming the downward trend continues through the remainder of Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the Governor's reopening plan, Town Hall will reopen to the public on Monday, July 6th.

In the meantime, public safety and public works continue to operate and Town Hall staff continue to work alternating their presence in Town Hall and working remotely. Although Town Hall is not open to the public, you can reach Town Hall staff by phone, email, and if needed can make an appointment to meet with them outside.

Contact information for each department can be found on the town website at www.dunstable-ma.gov. We appreciate your patience during this time.

Thank you to all those who participated in the Annual Town Election both at the polls and through absentee voting. There still remain a number of open positions to fill on various Boards and Committees in Town including the Advisory Board, the Board of Assessor's, the Water Commission, and more. Please email the Town Administrator, Brian Palaia at bpalaia@dunstable-ma.gov if you are interested in learning more and serving.

We are continuing work on preparing for Annual Town Meeting and expect to announce a date at the beginning of July.

Our public health nurses are on the front line of this situation as they monitor the State's communicable disease surveillance system – MAVEN for our community. There were as many as 11 cases in Dunstable who have laboratory confirmed positive tests for COVID-19 as of June 19, 2020. Please see the accompanying notice from the Board of Health regarding confirmed positive test(s).

Residents are reminded of the following preventative measures recommended by the State:

Practice social distancing - There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. Another way to prevent the illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person:

1. Between people who are in close contact with one another (within 6')
2. Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes or coughs.

To prevent transmission this social distancing includes the following actions:

- Wash your hands often or use hand sanitizer
- Wear a mask in public when you cannot maintain social distance (maintain 6 feet apart)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Stay at home if you are sick
- Keep children off public playgrounds and away from congregating with other groups of children

This advice is especially true for older adults and those who have health issues are urged to avoid large crowds and events. Individuals who live in households with vulnerable people, like elderly parents, should avoid crowds.

Please take notice: Although our park land is now open for limited use and the playgrounds may be used, team sports and public gatherings on public land remain prohibited.

Additional information regarding closures or other changes will be released as it becomes available.

For more information about COVID -19 from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, please click here: <https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19> and the Centers for Disease Control, please click here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>