

March 13, 2020

Dear Westborough Community;

We have been working over the past week to deal with the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, and its impact on our community and appreciate your patience as we managed this rapidly changing situation. **The Westborough Board of Health, Westborough Board of Selectmen and the Westborough School Committee met jointly last night, March 12, 2020 at 6:00pm. This meeting can be viewed on WestboroughTV.**

Below is a list of the actions that the Boards took as a collective community response to COVID-19. These actions, as part of a town-wide strategy, will be most effective with the help and cooperation of the community.

School and School Program Closures

All Westborough schools will be closed starting Monday, March 16th through Friday March 20th. Please click [here](#) to view the Superintendent's communication regarding the schools.

Building Closures

The Town has determined that all rental use of Town facilities, public-at-large use of the facilities, and evening and community events in our facilities have been canceled, effective immediately and until further notice. In addition, the following guidance is being issued for the following:

All non-essential meetings will be postponed or cancelled for the foreseeable future, with updated information to be provided on the Town website. Essential meetings are encouraged to be done remotely. Click [here](#) for information on the Governor's Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Westborough Senior Center: The Senior Center will remain open but all events and activities within the Senior Center have been cancelled or postponed until further notice. This includes the Senior Tax/Veterans Tax Workoff Program which will be suspended through the end of March.

Essential programs, including limited transportation, will continue at this time. Please contact the Senior Center with any questions at 508-330-3000.

Westborough Public Library: The library will remain open but the meeting room will be closed. All events and activities within the library have been cancelled or postponed until further notice.

Westborough Recreation: The Westborough Recreation Department will remain open but all events and activities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice. Details of specific program information will be emailed directly to participants.

Town Employee Information

The Board of Selectmen will meet on Tuesday, March 17th at 6pm to discuss municipal operations. Information for Town personnel will be forthcoming from town management.

Recommendations for Community Gatherings and Events

The Board of Health recommends that houses of worship consider postponing non-essential events. The Board of Health will continue to monitor the situation and may offer additional guidance in the future.

The Westborough Food Pantry plans to alter operations in response to COVID-19. Please contact the food pantry at 508-366-3007 or check their [website](#). If you are able to donate, the food pantry is requesting donations of grocery store gift cards or monetary donations.

Town Elections and Town Meeting

Town Elections will continue as scheduled. They will be held on March 17th, 8am-8pm at the Westborough Senior Center, 4 Rogers Road.

The Board of Health, Board of Selectmen, Town Moderator and Town Clerk continue to monitor the situation and will determine the response to the scheduled Town Meeting. Town Meeting is currently scheduled for March 28th at 1pm. Any changes to this date will be advertised.

Community Health & Prevention

When a new illness is circulating, it's natural for people to ask what they can do to protect themselves and their families. For our community health actions to be effective, we need all community members to do their part by staying at home as much as possible during the school closure. Our best prevention guidance is:

- Avoid large social gatherings
- Cover coughs/sneezes with tissues, or cough/sneeze into the inner elbow.
- Practice good handwashing with soap and water as often as possible
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers ONLY if soap and water are not available.

Please visit the Department of Public Health's website for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19:

<https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>.

We will keep you informed of any additional changes in operation as this rapidly evolving public health situation continues.

Mr. Steve Baccari, Director of Public Health, Westborough
Ms. Kristi Williams, Town Manager, Westborough
Ms. Amber Bock, Superintendent of Schools, Westborough
Chief Patrick Purcell, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director
Chief Jeffrey Lourie, Police Chief, Westborough
Ms. Kimberly Foster, Assistant Town Manager, Westborough
Westborough Board of Health
Westborough Board of Selectmen

Westborough School Committee