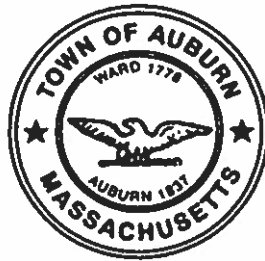


# Town of Auburn, Massachusetts

## Department of Development & Inspectional Services



Julie Jacobson Town Manager

Darlene M. Coyle, R5  
Director of Public Health

**Board of Health**  
Eric Otterson, Chairman  
Carolyn Griffin, Vice Chairman  
Steven R. Nordborg, Member

For immediate release  
May 5, 2020

### Coronavirus Notice to Auburn Community

The Auburn Board of Health has seen an increase in COVID-19 cases in the past week bringing the total to 152 positive cases, up from 55 cases from last week. Health officials from the Board of Health are working closely with the State to ensure that disease investigation requirements are followed for these individuals, including isolation and quarantine protocols. For several weeks now, the State has informed the public about the surge of cases that were expected around the Commonwealth, and we are seeing that in our town. We ask the public to continue to follow the orders, advisories, and good public health practices that are proven to slow the spread of the disease.

The Town continues to stay updated on all of the evolving changes and measures from the State for the prevention of COVID-19. The most recent order from the Baker administration that is in effect today, requires the use of masks or face coverings for individuals in public places where they cannot social distance from others. A face covering may include anything that covers your nose and mouth, including a mask, scarf or bandana. Health care masks should not be used and should be preserved for health care workers and first responders. Cloth masks should not be worn by young children under the age of two, persons with difficulty breathing, or those who are unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Instructions on how to make a cloth mask are available on the CDC website. This face covering order applies to all workers and customers of businesses and other organizations that are currently open to the public and permitted to operate as COVID-19 essential businesses, such as grocery stores, pharmacies and other retail stores. Residents are also required to wear a mask or face covering at all times when using any means of transportation service or public mass transit.

As you may be aware, the Town of Auburn created a COVID-19 community response programs to help offer assistance to residents in need during this trying time. The Auburn CARES program includes daily calls to our senior residents and distribution of meals to families in need as well as referral for support resources for immediate essentials. The hotline number for the program is 508-832-7720, Monday –Friday from 8AM-2PM.

Given the increasing serious risks associated with COVID-19, the Town of Auburn reminds all residents to take every precaution to keep yourselves, your family members and the community safe. Each individual plays an important role in this public health crisis and we ask that you do your part by following these precautions, in order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus:

- Follow the stay-at-home order**
- Ensure that you practice social distancing**
- Wash your hands often and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds**
- Cover your cough and sneezes**
- Stay at home when you are sick and contact your doctor**
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, and nose with your hands**
- Clean and disinfect commonly touched items, such as your phone and doorknobs**
- Avoid gatherings of more than ten people and always stay safe in public**

For the latest local information, you can visit the Town of Auburn website - [www.auburnguide.com](http://www.auburnguide.com) or call the Auburn Board of Health at 508-832-7703.

For State information, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health 2019 novel coronavirus web site, which is, updated frequently - [www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus](http://www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus). You can also call the State's informational hotline with any questions by dialing 2-1-1. If you would like to receive information by text alerts, please text COVIDMA to 888-777.

Additional details and guidance regarding the novel coronavirus, is available from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) website - [www.CDC/covid-19](http://www.CDC/covid-19)

This pandemic is unprecedented and we are living in a world that most of us have never seen before. Everyone must come together and support one another to get us through these difficult times; we will get through this together.



Julie A. Jacobson  
Town Manager



Darlene M. Coyle  
Director of Public Health