

COVID-19 Updates for May 11, 2020 9:30 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 136 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 68 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

COVID-19 Updates for May 10, 2020

Confirmed Cases

- 121 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 52 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

COVID-19 Updates for May 9, 2020 8:30 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 121 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 52 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

COVID-19 Updates for May 8, 2020 10:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 120 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 51 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

COVID-19 Updates for May 7, 2020 9:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 111 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 58 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed

cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Java with John Program - May 8th

- May 8th at 10am on [youtube](#) live and WAEM 94.9 FM radio
- The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti will include a discussion with medical professionals from Acton Medical Associates and Acton Nursing Services:
 - Dr. Edwin Knights, Acton Medical Associates
 - Nursing Director Heather York, Acton Nursing Service
 - Physical Therapist Karen Patterson, Acton Nursing Service
 - Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio
- Please send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611.
- To view the recordings of [previous Java with John programs](#) go to [ActonTV youtube channel](#).

More information at actonma.gov/covid19

NOTE: Previous updates are provided below for reference.

COVID-19 Updates for May 6, 2020 8:30 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 110 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently 60 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Board of Health Emergency Order Requiring Face Coverings

- The [Acton Board of Health Emergency Public Health Order of May 5, 2020](#) requires that face coverings be worn in public. View the order here: <https://actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6367/Board-of-Health-Emergency-Public-Health-Order-of-May-5>
- View a MassDPH message called [How to Safely Cover Your Face Outside of Home](#) at the following link: <https://youtu.be/HtUJPizQVPI>

COVID-19 Updates for May 5, 2020 5:30 PM

Confirmed Cases

- **100** total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. There are currently **53** cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Governor Baker's Order Requiring Face Coverings

- As of Wednesday, May 6, Massachusetts requires everyone over the age of 2 to wear a face covering in public when social distancing is not possible. View the full details of this order at: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>
- View a MassDPH message called [How to Safely Cover Your Face Outside of Home](#) at the following link: <https://youtu.be/HtUJPizQVPI>

Update on Voting for June 2nd Elections

- The polls will be open from 7AM to 8PM for the town election and the special state representative election (Precincts 3, 4 and 5) on June 2nd and all six precincts will vote at the RJ Grey Junior High School. Please consider the vote early by mail option. The link to the vote by mail application is [here](#): <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6288/2020-Municipal-Early-Ballot-Application>. In addition, the vote by mail application will also appear on the last page of the Town's Municipal Monthly newsletter which will be mailed to all households later this week.

Acton Town Services Hotline 978-929-6619

- We have established a central customer service hotline called the Acton Town Services hotline to provide one number to call that can provide answers to various questions related COVID-19 and also connect callers to resources about questions about town services in general. The Acton Town Services hotline number is 978-929-6619.

Java with John Program - May 8th

- May 8th at 10am on [youtube live](#) and WAEM 94.9 FM radio
- The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti will include a discussion with medical professionals from Acton Medical Associates and Acton Nursing Services. More details will be announced later this week. Please send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611.
- To view the recordings of [previous Java with John programs go to ActonTV youtube channel](#).

COVID-19 Updates for May 4, 2020

Confirmed Cases

- 97 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton.
- Of these there are currently 53 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored.

COVID-19 Updates for May 3, 2020

Confirmed Cases

- 97 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently 54 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored.

COVID-19 Updates for May 2, 2020 7:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 96 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently 53 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored.

COVID-19 Updates for May 1, 2020

Confirmed Cases

- 94 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently 51 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

COVID-19 Updates for April 30, 2020 6:30 PM

Confirmed Cases

- 92 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently 52 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Statement on Recent Testing Results

Acton Public Health Nurses are working closely with the residents, and are conducting contact tracing to identify and provide guidelines to anyone who has been in close contact with these patients.

Acton recorded a significant jump in the most recent reporting of COVID-19 cases due to extensive testing at the Life Care Center of Acton. Acton Nursing Director Heather York reports

that 23 of the skilled nursing and rehabilitation center's approximately 120 residents have tested positive for COVID-19. All residents were recently tested. Director York has been in regular communication with management at Life Care Center of Acton. The Town of Acton is confident that the facility is doing everything it can to manage this dangerous and often unpredictable pandemic. The Town has also been informed that all employees of the Life Care Center of Acton will be tested starting tomorrow.

Since early March when visitors were banned from the building, Town and Life Care officials have been working together to keep the community updated with the status of COVID-19 within the facility, and the Town believes the facility is following best practices in the COVID-19 pandemic, including cancelling group activities, screening residents and staff for fever and breathing problems and using distancing and isolating techniques to reduce the spread of the illness. The facility is also currently not taking in any new residents and has notified the local hospitals of this change.

"We believe that the staff at the Life Care Center of Acton have taken all the necessary precautions, followed the guidance as it has been released from the State Department of Public Health and have followed best practice guidelines as they would have with any other communicable disease and have been proactive in protecting their residents," Director York said.

In order to protect residents' medical privacy rights, no additional information will be disclosed about people who test positive for COVID-19.

"The Board of Health is closely monitoring the situation, and stands ready to assist in whatever way needed to this rapidly evolving difficult event," said Bill McInnis Chair of the Acton Board of Health. "We are grateful for the support and professionalism of the Acton Nursing Service and the Acton Health department."

General information about the reporting of confirmed cases can be found [here](#).

Other Recent Updates

- We would like to express our sincere gratitude to our residents for practicing social distancing in an attempt to stop the spread of COVID-19. Also thank you to everyone who has donated supplies to our Public Safety Departments and to Acton Nursing.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, NARA Park, and the skate park remain closed to the public while Massachusetts's State of Emergency is in effect.
- Rail trails and conservation trails remain open, but residents are encouraged to practice social distancing and not congregate in groups if they are using the trails.
- Town Hall services are still operational and staff is available during normal hours throughout the work week. Please call 978-929-6619 to reach the Acton Town Services hotline
- On Tuesday, April 28, Gov. Baker extended the closure of non-essential business and the stay-at-home advisory to May 18. Gov. Baker also announced the establishment of a Reopening Advisory Board to develop phased reopening plans for the Commonwealth. [Click here for more information.](#)

- The Town of Acton has also started to broadcast local updates and additional information on its local FM radio station 94.9. WAEM. Many public meetings are broadcasted live as well as other PSAs and programs. A weekly live broadcast of the Senior Center's "Java with John" program is aired on the radio and also on the [ActonTV youtube channel](#).

Federal Guidance Regarding Face Masks

Both Gov. Charlie Baker and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that all individuals going out in public wear cloth face masks as precaution in situations where social distancing is hard to maintain in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- **For wearing a face mask, residents should:**
 - Use it to completely cover their nose and mouth
 - Read the directions provided on use of the mask, if available
 - Put the mask on properly and adjust it as necessary throughout the day
 - Wash their hands and face after removing the mask and before touching their face
 - Keep masks clean. Fabric face coverings should be cleaned after each use and should be machine washable and dryer safe
 - Keep it away from running machinery or equipment that could entangle the mask
 - Keep it on their person when not using it
 - Request a new one if it becomes damaged or in any way unsanitary
- **Residents should not:**
 - Let the mask obstruct their vision
 - Wear it if it causes any difficulty in their ability to breathe
 - Wear it if it causes safety glasses or reading glasses to fog up and impair vision
 - Let it hang down around their neck
 - Lay it on a surface where it may contaminate the surface or lay it on a surface that may already be contaminated
 - Wear it where it may come in contact with running machinery or create a hazard while performing their work
 - Use it if it is damaged in any way

The guidance recommends protective face coverings to be worn by employees of any essential business — which, as defined by Gov. Baker's COVID-19 Executive Orders, include but are not limited to food establishments, grocery stores and pharmacies — when interacting with members of the public and when within six feet of a co-worker.

COVID-19, the illness associated with the novel coronavirus, was declared a global pandemic earlier this year by the World Health Organization. It has also led to a presidential declaration of a national emergency, a state of emergency in Massachusetts and the declaration of a local state of emergency in Acton. The federal government in late March approved a Major Disaster Declaration for Massachusetts as well.

Information on COVID-19 is updated daily on the Town of Acton website, actonma.gov. The Town has also created a COVID-19 information center, which can be accessed at actonma.gov/covid19.

For more information, residents may also visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website [here](#) or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (DPH) website [here](#).

Java with John Program - Local Business Panel Discussion

- May 1st at 10am on [youtube live](#) and WAEM 94.9 FM radio
- The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti will include an exciting panel of local business leaders:
 - Russ Layton from Sparx Hockey www.sparxhockey.com
 - Beran Peter from Advanced Environmental Systems www.associatedenvironmentalsystems.com
 - Doug Sieber from Haartz www.haartz.com
 - Paul Swydan from Silver Unicorn Bookstore www.silverunicornbooks.com
 - Kyra Marino from Community Revolution Yoga www.yogaacton.com
- The panel of business leaders will share information about the how their businesses are managing this public health crisis. Land Use and Economic Development Director MJ Selby and Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio will also participate in the program. Please send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611.

COVID-19 Updates for April 29, 2020 10:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- **75** total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently **35** cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Java with John Program - Local Business Panel Discussion

- May 1st at 10am on [youtube live](#) and WAEM 94.9 FM radio. The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti will include an exciting panel of local business leaders, along with Land Use Economic Development Director MJ Selby and Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio. Send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611.

COVID-19 Updates for April 28, 2020 8:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- **71** total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently **31** cases in isolation that are

actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

Stay-at Home Advisory

- The Governor announced today that the stay-at-home advisory, non-essential business closure, and the ban on gatherings of 10 or more people have all been extended to May 18th.

Changes to Location for June 2nd Elections

- The Board of Selectmen voted to implement the following changes to polling places for the June 2, 2020 Town Election and Special State Election.
 - All precincts will vote at the R.J. Grey Junior High School
 - All voters are encouraged to vote by mail. Download the application here: <http://www.actonma.gov/elections>
 - For additional details contact the Town Clerk's Office 978-929-6620

Restaurants Temporarily Allowed to Sell Groceries in Acton

- The Board of Selectmen and Board of Health approved an emergency order allowing restaurants to sell groceries during the local state of emergency. This action is one of several small business relief measures being considered. Additional details will be posted online tomorrow at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>.

COVID-19 Emergency Grants for Residents

- The Acton Boxborough United Way has announced further details on the COVID-19 Emergency funding now available for Acton and Boxborough residents:
- Frequently Asked Questions about the A-B United Way COVID-19 Emergency Grants for Residents
- How to Donate to the COVID-19 Impact Fund from Acton-Boxborough United Way

Acton Boxborough Farmers Market

- The Board of Selectmen approved a request to hold the Acton Boxborough Farmers Market on Sunday mornings at the Elm Street Fields starting on July 12, 2020

COVID-19 Updates for April 27, 2020 9:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - 67 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Of these there are currently 27 cases in isolation that are actively being monitored. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Update on Food Resources
 - View the current list of available food resources [Food Resources](#)

COVID-19 Updates for April 26, 2020 10:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **66** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Board of Health is meeting Monday April 27th at 7:30 PM

COVID-19 Updates for April 25, 2020 11:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **65** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 24, 2020 5:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **63** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Java with John Program
 - Go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oLXPkEWDMjY> to view a recording of the April 24th broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti. Guests on the program this week included Acton Boxborough Regional School District Superintendent Peter Light, Town Counsel Nina Pickering-Cook, Veterans Services Director James MacRae, Director of Nursing Heather York, and Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio.

COVID-19 Updates for April 23, 2020 10:30 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **56** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Acton Fourth of July Celebration and other NARA Park Events Cancelled
 - Due to public health concerns all concerts and special events scheduled through July 15th have been postponed or cancelled. The following events are cancelled: Chinese Music and Dance Night, June 12th; Classical Concert, June 17th; Beach Party Blast, June 20th; and Foreigners Journey, June 26th; Independence Day Celebration, 4th of July.
- Java with John Program
 - April 24th at 10am on youtube live and WAEM 94.9 FM radio - The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti. Guests on the program this week include Acton Boxborough Regional

School District Superintendent Peter Light, Town Counsel Nina Pickering Cook, Veterans Services Director James MacRae, Director of Nursing Heather York, and Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio. Send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611.

COVID-19 Updates for April 22, 2020 9:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **51** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Advisory Regarding Restricting Visitation at Senior Housing Facilities
 - The Board of Health tonight voted to issue an advisory to eliminate unnecessary visitation at senior housing facilities.
 - The advisory hereby advises all owners and operators of senior housing in the Town of Acton to restrict any visitation to units within their properties except for those visits that are necessary to provide essential services, such as deliveries of food and medicine any other products necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, or care from personal care assistants, home care providers, or other medical professionals. For the purpose of this Advisory, senior housing should be read broadly to include any property that is generally intended for or restricted to senior residents.
 - The full notice will be posted online tomorrow at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>

COVID-19 Updates for April 21, 2020 10:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **45** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Acton COVID-19 Information Center Hotline: Dial 978-929-6619
 - If you need help finding resources or have questions about town services impacted by COVID-19 use our new customer service hotline during Town Hall business hours.
 - The hotline is staffed by town employees trained to help residents with answers to frequently asked questions and assistance finding resources.
 - Use the hotline to connect to Acton Nursing and to Acton Board of Health.
 - Translation services available.
 - After business hours a recording of information is available as well as options to connect to other services.

COVID-19 Updates for April 20, 2020 11:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **45** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

[ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info](https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 19, 2020 10:30 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **45** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 18, 2020 5:30 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **45** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Support Local Business
 - On Friday we launched a social media campaign to encourage residents to support our local businesses. We are encouraging residents to post a #takeoutselfie on their social media accounts to promote Acton's restaurants. View a complete list of Acton's takeout and delivery options by visiting www.actonrestaurantweek.com
 - Post your #takeoutselfie at an Acton restaurant today! Be sure to tag Town of Acton social media accounts [facebook](#) and [instagram](#) and [twitter](#) (@actonmagov). Also include hashtags #ActonMA and #takeoutselfie
 - Please be sure to follow all of the recommended public health guidance regarding wearing face coverings, social distancing, and [other measures](#).
- Acton Board of Health Recommended Additional Safety and Social Distancing Protocols for Essential Stores
 - Due to the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak in our community, it is vital that all residents stay at home and when essential to leave home, take the necessary precautions, hygienic measures and adhere to social distancing protocols to keep our community safe. Based on evolving public health information and rapidly escalating community transmission of the virus, the Board of Health is recommending additional safety and social distancing protocols for stores.
 - The following recommendations are to protect the safety and health of our community.
 - Open early for high risk individuals to shop and close early to allow more time for store sanitization and restocking.
 - Promote social and physical distancing practices in stores by marking floors and adding signage to help customers and employees maintain safe distances, especially at entrances, counter service areas and check-out lines.
 - Limit the number of customers allowed into the store at one time to state mandated 40% of store's maximum occupancy level for customers and employees

- Setup store to facilitate social and physical distancing, including one-way isle traffic, not placing promotional or high demand items near high traffic areas and installing protective shields at check-out areas.
- Promote minimizing public physical contacts, such as outside delivery and non contact electronic payment.
- Promote home delivery to at risk or confined to home individuals for food and medicine.
- Promote employee health by wearing face masks and eye protection.
- Promote employee health by checking their health and temperature before reporting to work.
- Promote public health by customers wearing face masks, not placing personal items in carts or baskets, and practicing hygienic measures.
- Promote public health by minimizing the number of family members shopping and minimizing the frequency and time in stores.

COVID-19 Updates for April 17, 2020 5:00 PM

- Confirmed Cases
 - There are a total of **45** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Board of Health Order Regarding Essential Stores
 - On, Thursday, April 16, 2020, the BOH ordered the Health Division to require and enforce all existing and emergency health, safety, hygiene guidelines and occupancy restrictions for all essential stores in the Town of Acton effectively immediately. The order required compliance with the following:
 - Stores may not have more than 40% occupancy load, as required by the recent State order.
 - Stores must outline a cleaning and disinfection schedule for all common touched items in your store, including but not limited to, grocery carts and baskets, payment pin pad, scales, all door handles, doors, and shelves
 - Provide plexiglass or similar protective screens at all cash registers to provide protection to your employee and patron.
 - Ensure that stores mark and identify one way aisles.
 - The use of face masks or coverings are strongly urged for both employees and patrons.
 - Plans for interior and exterior social distancing measures of at least 6 feet must be marked on the floor and pavement.
- Stay Home and Stay Safe
 - The Acton Board of Health would like you to remind our residents that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued a stay at home advisory. It is important for everyone to follow these steps in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We encourage everyone only to leave your home for essential items and if you have to leave, practice social distancing by maintaining 6 feet between you and others, avoid touching common surfaces, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, wash hands frequently,

wear a face covering while you are out and please stay home if you are sick. Also, utilize special hours that your grocery store has dedicated for our vulnerable residents and for those over 60.

- If everyone takes these steps it will help prevent the spread of the virus, and more importantly, allow our healthcare workers to care for critically ill and preserve their use of PPE (personal protective equipment) that is so desperately needed.
- Java with John Program
 - View a recording of the program broadcast earlier today here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9D88LFoiIzc&t=12s>

COVID-19 Updates for April 16, 2020 10:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

- There are a total of **44** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> . Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts started posting a weekly report of confirmed cases in each municipality. Due to reporting methodologies there is a difference in the report published yesterday by the state compared to our daily report. Residents are encouraged to rely on our local reporting for the most current data as it relates to confirmed COVID-19 cases in the town of Acton.

• Stay Home and Stay Safe

- The Acton Board of Health would like you to remind our residents that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has issued a stay at home advisory. It is important for everyone to follow these steps in order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We encourage everyone only to leave your home for essential items and if you have to leave, practice social distancing by maintaining 6 feet between you and others, avoid touching common surfaces, avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, wash hands frequently, wear a face covering while you are out and please stay home if you are sick. Also, utilize special hours that your grocery store has dedicated for our vulnerable residents and for those over 60.
- If everyone takes these steps it will help prevent the spread of the virus, and more importantly, allow our healthcare workers to care for critically ill and preserve their use of PPE (personal protective equipment) that is so desperately needed.

• Java with John Program

- April 17th at 10am on [youtube live](#) and WAEM 94.9 FM radio - The latest live broadcast of the Senior Center Program called Java with John hosted by Town Manager John Mangiaratti. Guests on the program this week include Board of Selectmen Chair Joan Gardner, Chief of Police Richard Burrows, Director of Nursing Heather York, Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio and Community Resources Coordinator Laura Ducharme. Send your questions in advance to manager@actonma.gov or call in during the program at 978-929-6611

- **Early Voting for Town Election and Special State Election**
 - Through the Town Clerk's office registered voters may request a vote by mail application for the June 2nd Town and Special State Representative (Precincts 3, 4 and 5) elections. The link to the vote by mail application is available at <http://www.actonma.gov/elections>.
- **Reminder from Acton Memorial Library about Online Offerings**
 - **Digital Resources:** We have a lot of great content you can access digitally. In most cases you use your Library Card Number and Password to access these resources. If you have lost your library card number or forgotten your password, please click HERE.
 - **E-Cards:** If you do not already have a Minuteman library card, you can apply for a temporary e-card here. This will allow you to check out digital titles.

Find additional information at Acton's COVID-19 Information Center: <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>

NOTE: Previous updates are provided below for reference.

COVID-19 Updates for April 15, 2020 9:00 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**
 - The are a total of **39** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 14, 2020 8:15 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**
 - The are a total of **39** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- **Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
 - The Commonwealth is posting daily updates and other useful information for residents including guidance, advisories, and access to resources. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-updates-and-information#regulations-&-guidance->

COVID-19 Updates for April 13, 2020 8:30 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**
 - The are a total of **39** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more details from Acton Public Health about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info>

[ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info](https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 12, 2020 8:45 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**

- The are a total of **35** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

COVID-19 Updates for April 11, 2020 7:00 PM

Confirmed Cases

The are a total of **33** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

Advisory Regarding Face Coverings and Cloth Masks

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health issued the following advisory yesterday:

There are many things that you can do to help protect yourself and others from becoming infected with COVID-19. People who show no symptoms of illness may still be able to spread COVID-19. A face covering may help prevent you from spreading COVID-19 to other people. A face covering can include anything that covers your nose and mouth, including dust masks, scarves and bandanas. Do not use health care worker masks, such as the N95 masks - those should be preserved for healthcare workers. It is important that you wear these face coverings or masks in situations where it is difficult to maintain a social distance of six feet from others. For example, in a pharmacy or grocery store.

When you wear a cloth mask, it should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face,
- Be secured with ties or ear loops,
- Include multiple layers of fabric,
- Allow for breathing without restriction, and
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

When putting on and taking off a mask, do not touch the front of it, you should only handle the ties or ear straps, and make sure you wash the cloth mask regularly. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after touching the mask.

Cloth masks should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. Instructions on how to make your own cloth mask are available on the CDC web site. In addition to wearing a cloth mask you should continue to practice proven methods to protect yourself.

- Practice social distancing at all times by remaining 6 feet away from others when you have to leave your home for essential trips.
- Stay home if you are sick and avoiding close contact with others.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; using alcohol-based hand gel with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean things that are frequently touched (like doorknobs and countertops) with household cleaning spray or wipes.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your inner elbow, not your hands.

Signs Posted by Volunteers on Conservation Trails

Thank you to several volunteers who went out to all of the conservation lands today to post notices regarding COVID-19 precautions. When using conservation trails please keep at least 6 feet away from others and follow other guidance to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.



COVID-19 Updates for April 10, 2020 7:00 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**
 - There are a total of **27** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](#) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- **Board of Health Directives**
 - The Board of Health directed staff to post additional signage at certain conservation areas, rail trails, and the Arboretum to help reduce the transmission of the COVID-19 virus and safeguard all of our residents. The purpose of the signage is to provide information about wearing a face mask and about the statewide stay at home advisory. The signage will also be used to reduce parking to limit occupancy at the Arboretum and rail trails. One way signs are also going to be posted at the Arboretum and any other areas where possible to keep the flow of visitors moving in the same direction.
- **Updates from Town and State Officials**
 - A recording of the Senior Center's "Java with John" program is available to be viewed online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftfYfsNsZTs> . In this program Town Manager John Mangiaratti is joined by special guests Representative Tami Gouveia, Nursing Director Heather York, and Senior Center Director Sharon Mercurio to provide important information about COVID-19 related matters.



COVID-19 Updates for April 9, 2020 8:00 PM

- **Confirmed Cases**
 - There are a total of **26** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](#) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- **Federal Guidance Regarding Face Masks**
 - On Friday, April 3, the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommended](#) that all individuals going out in public wear cloth face masks as precaution in situations where social distancing is hard to maintain, such as grocery stores and pharmacies, in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. [Social distancing](#) is the practice of keeping at least six feet between people while in public.
- **Tax Bill Deadline Extended**
 - In accordance with the Act to Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities and State Authorities Resulting from COVID-19, signed on Friday, April 3, the Town is exercising the option made available by the legislation to extend the due date of tax payments. The Board of Selectmen voted to extend the tax bill deadline from May 1, 2020 to June 1, 2020. If such tax bills are unpaid after June 1, 2020, all fees and interest shall be waived as long as the amount due is paid by June 30, 2020
Bills can be paid:
 - Online at <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/selection>
 - By using the drop box at Town Hall, located at 472 Main St. Payments dropped in the drop boxes should be in the form of check or money order; please do not put cash in the drop boxes.
 - By mailing the payment directly to Acton Town Hall, 472 Main St., Acton, MA 01720.
 - Residents who have questions regarding their bill can email collector@actonma.gov.
- **Town Offices, Facilities and Recreation Spaces**
 - All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, NARA Park, and the skate park remain closed to the public while Massachusetts's State of Emergency is in effect. The closures are being ordered out of an abundance of caution in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and promote social distancing. Rail trails and conservation trails remain open, but residents are encouraged to practice social distancing and not congregate in groups if they are using the trails. Town Hall services are still operational and staff is available during normal hours throughout the work week. Please call 978-929-6620 or use www.actonma.gov to contact staff.
- **Transfer Station Hours**
 - The Acton Transfer Station has adjusted operating hours and is open Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. This adds Monday as a new day of service for residents. The first hour of operation (7-8 a.m. of each day) is designated for seniors only. For more information on the Transfer Station and Recycling Center, please call 978-929-7742.
- **Restaurants and Non-Essential Businesses**

- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for a current list of options. On Tuesday, March 31, Gov. Charlie Baker extended the closure of non-essential businesses to the public until May 4. Gatherings of more than 10 people are also prohibited until May 4. The closures are being done out of an abundance of caution in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and promote social distancing. Essential businesses that remain open during time should promote this practice as well. The Stay at Home Advisory Gov. Baker announced last month also remains in effect. This advisory encourages residents to stay home unless absolutely necessary, for example picking up groceries or medications. Residents may exercise outdoors, but are encouraged to practice social distancing when doing so. More information about the advisory can be found [here](#).
- **Donations of Personal Protective Equipment**
 - Town officials would like to express their gratitude for residents and local businesses who have donated masks and other personal protective equipment (PPE) to the Town. Acton's Public Safety Facility, 371 Main St., is ready to serve as a central drop-off point for PPE including home-made masks. Those looking to make a donation should call 978-929-7711 to coordinate a drop-off. The Public Safety Facility remains closed to the public for all non-emergency business until further notice. Residents should continue to call 911 during any emergency and first responders will respond as always.
- **Additional Information**
 - The Annual Town Election as well as the Special State Election have been postponed to Tuesday, June 2, 2020. Early voting by mail is encouraged and is now available. More information can be found at actonma.gov/elections.
 - All Acton residents were mailed a letter this week from the Board of Health with important information about how to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Residents are encouraged to listen to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9, where town officials are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
 - Additionally, the Acton Senior Center's "Java with John" program with Town Manager Mangiaratti will broadcast live this Friday at 10 a.m. on [ActonTV's Youtube channel](#) and on radio 94.9 FM. If you have any questions send them in advance to manager@actonma.gov or 978-929-6611.
 - Information on COVID-19 is updated daily on the Town of Acton website, actonma.gov. The Town has also created a COVID-19 information center, which can be accessed at actonma.gov/covid19.
 - For more information, residents may also visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website [here](#) or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (DPH) website [here](#).

COVID-19 Updates for April 8, 2020 9:30 PM

- There are a total of 24 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](#) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Temporary parking restrictions are in place on Quarry Road and Ledge Rock way to support enforcement of the Board of Health order to close NARA Park.

- Tax Bill Deadline Extended: The Board of Selectmen voted to extend the current May 1, 2020 due date for 4th Quarter FY2020 tax bills to June 1, 2020. Also, if such tax bills are unpaid after June 1, 2020 all fees and interest shall be waived if the amount due is paid by June 30, 2020.
- The Acton Board of Health ordered the closure of NARA Park for the duration of the declared local state of emergency. View the order here: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6317/NARA-Park-Closure-Order-Board-of-Health-4-6-2020>
- The CDC published new recommendations regarding wearing masks and face coverings in public. View more information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html> and here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.
- The Acton Transfer Station has adjusted operating hours and is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00AM to 3:00PM. The first hour starting at 7:00 AM is designated for Seniors. For more information on the Transfer Station and Recycling Center, please call (978) 929-7742.
- The Acton Senior Center's "Java with John" program will be broadcast live this Friday at 10am on ActonTVs Youtube channel and also on radio 94.9 FM. If you have any questions send them in advance to manager@actonma.gov.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, NARA Park, and the skate park remain closed to the public. Town Hall services are still operational. Please call or use the web site to contact staff.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Updates for April 7, 2020 9:30 PM

- There are a total of **22** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- Tax Bill Deadline Extended: The Board of Selectmen voted to extend the current May 1, 2020 due date for 4th Quarter FY2020 tax bills to June 1, 2020. Also, if such tax bills are unpaid after June 1, 2020 all fees and interest shall be waived if the amount due is paid by June 30, 2020.
- The Acton Board of Health ordered the closure of NARA Park for the duration of the declared local state of emergency. View the order here: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6317/NARA-Park-Closure-Order-Board-of-Health-4-6-2020>
- The Board of Selectmen voted to establish temporary parking restrictions near NARA Park to support the enforcement of the park closure.
- The CDC published new recommendations regarding wearing masks and face coverings in public. View more information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html> and here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.

- The Acton Transfer Station has adjusted operating hours and is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00AM to 3:00PM. The first hour starting at 7:00 AM is designated for Seniors. For more information on the Transfer Station and Recycling Center, please call (978) 929-7742.
- Several residents and local businesses have donated masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). We are grateful for this generosity. Acton's Public Safety Facility is ready to serve as a central drop-off point for PPE including home-made masks. Call first 978-929-7711 to coordinate your drop-off. The Public Safety Facility is located at 371 Main Street in Acton. Do not enter the building!
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for a current list of options.
- The Board of Health ordered all non-essential construction activity to cease immediately in accordance with guidance from the Governor's office.
- Rail trails and conservation trails remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
- The Acton Senior Center's "Java with John" program will be broadcast live this Friday at 10am on ActonTVs Youtube channel and also on radio 94.9 FM. If you have any questions send them in advance to manager@actonma.gov.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, NARA Park, and the skate park remain closed to the public. Town Hall services are still operational. Please call or use the web site to contact staff.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Updates for April 6, 2020 9:30 PM

- There are a total of 17 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](#) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Acton Board of Health voted this evening to close NARA Park effective immediately and for the park to remain closed for the duration of the declared local state of emergency.
- The CDC published new recommendations regarding wearing masks and face coverings in public. View more information here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html> and here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.
- The Acton Transfer Station has adjusted operating hours and is open Monday through Saturday from 7:00AM to 3:00PM. The first hour starting at 7:00 AM is designated for seniors. For more information on the Transfer Station and Recycling Center, please call (978) 929-7742.
- Acton's Public Safety Facility is ready to serve as a central drop-off point for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including home-made masks. If you have N95 masks, PPE or home-made masks, please share them. The police will distribute items locally where most needed. Call first 978-929-7711 to coordinate your drop-off. The Public Safety Facility is located at 371 Main

Street in Acton. Do not enter the building! Masks are urgently needed. Acton Boxborough Regional School District food services urgently requests 30 masks. Home-made masks are fine. First responders need N95 masks. Please call first before dropping off masks at the PSF in Acton.

- Reminder from Public Safety: When you call 9-1-1, please share if someone in your home has tested positive for COVID-19, feels ill or is in self-isolation. Help protect our first responders.
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more a current list of options. The Board of Health affirmed orders to close fields and playgrounds. View the order here: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6305/April-2-Updated-BOH-closure-of-town-fields>
- Rail trails and conservation trails remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, NARA Park, and the skate park remain closed to the public. Town Hall services are still operational. Please call or use the web site to contact staff.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for April 5, 2020 9:15 PM

- There are a total of **15** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Board of Health affirmed orders to close fields and playgrounds. View the order here: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6305/April-2-Updated-BOH-closure-of-town-fields>
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more a current list of options.
- An Act to Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities and State Authorities Resulting From COVID-19 signed into law by Governor Baker this afternoon. Here is a link: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/chapter-53-of-the-acts-of-2020/download>
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.

COVID-19 Updates for April 3, 2020 6:15 PM

- There are a total of **11** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. View more [details from Acton Public Health](https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info) about the reporting of confirmed cases: <https://www.actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6306/Acton-COVID-Case-Reporting-Info> Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Board of Health affirmed orders to close fields and playgrounds. View the order here: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6305/April-2-Updated-BOH-closure-of-town-fields>
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more a current list of options.
- An Act to Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities and State Authorities Resulting From COVID-19 signed into law by Governor Baker this afternoon. Here is a link: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/chapter-53-of-the-acts-of-2020/download>
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.

COVID-19 Updates for April 2, 2020 9:15 PM

- There are a total of **6** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Board of Health is sending a town-wide letter to inform all residents about how to lower their risk of coronavirus infection. A copy of the letter is available at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- Increasing awareness of social distancing at our public parks is a priority. We have taken several measures at the direction of the Board of Health to limit public contact with tables and other surfaces at our parks. All picnic tables at NARA Park and all other recreation areas will be removed from service at this time. Available parking at NARA Park will be reduced, with several of the larger lots temporarily closed.
- Watch the latest episode of Java with John Friday at 1pm on ActonTVs youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/actontv1> You may also listen on 94.9 FM WAEM. Special guests to be announced ahead of the show.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.

- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for April 1, 2020 8:30 PM

- There are a total of **5** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Board of Health is sending a town-wide letter to inform all residents about how to lower their risk of coronavirus infection. A copy of the letter is available at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- Increasing awareness of social distancing at our public parks is a priority. We have taken several measures at the direction of the Board of Health to limit public contact with tables and other surfaces at our parks. All picnic tables at NARA Park and all other recreation areas will be removed from service at this time. Available parking at NARA Park will be reduced, with several of the larger lots temporarily closed.
- The Acton Board of Health is accepting applications for medical and non-medical volunteers to become members of the Town of Acton's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). An MRC is a network of residents and professionals who are interested in serving the Town of Acton and beyond by providing medical, public and mental health support during an emergency. A member of the MRC will benefit from free training and continuing education in areas including but not limited to CPR/first aid, sheltering, incident command system, and personal protection during an emergency. The MRC will also become familiar with local emergency plans, procedures and facilities. An MRC member may choose to stay local or be a part of a regional or nationwide response team. Please contact the Acton Health Division at health@actonma.gov if you would like an application or have any questions.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for March 31, 2020 9:00 PM

- There are a total of **4** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton that have been reported from the Mass Department of Public Health to the Town of Acton. Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.

- The Board of Health is sending a town-wide letter to inform all residents about how to lower their risk of coronavirus infection. A copy of the letter is available at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- Increasing awareness of social distancing at our public parks is a priority. We have taken several measures at the direction of the Board of Health to limit public contact with tables and other surfaces at our parks. All picnic tables at NARA Park and all other recreation areas will be removed from service at this time. Available parking at NARA Park will be reduced, with several of the larger lots temporarily closed.
- The Acton Board of Health is accepting applications for medical and non-medical volunteers to become members of the Town of Acton's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). An MRC is a network of residents and professionals who are interested in serving the Town of Acton and beyond by providing medical, public and mental health support during an emergency. A member of the MRC will benefit from free training and continuing education in areas including but not limited to CPR/first aid, sheltering, incident command system, and personal protection during an emergency. The MRC will also become familiar with local emergency plans, procedures and facilities. An MRC member may choose to stay local or be a part of a regional or nationwide response team. Please contact the Acton Health Division at health@actonma.gov if you would like an application or have any questions.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text the word "COVIDMA" to the phone number 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for March 30, 2020 9:00 PM

- There are 4 confirmed case of COVID-19 in Acton. Due to privacy concerns individual details are not provided.
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- Acton's Annual Town Election has been postponed until June 2, 2020 which is also the new date for the Special State Election. Voters are encouraged to vote by mail through absentee or early voting. For more details go to <http://actonma.gov/election>
- Board of Selectmen and Board of Health voted to temporarily suspend enforcement of the local plastic bag ban until July 1, 2020.

- The Board of Selectmen approved a temporary emergency policy directive for public employees and public meetings and public hearings for remote participation. This policy is available online at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- The transfer station is currently operating at normal hours with restrictions in place to implement social distancing practices.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.

COVID-19 Updates for March 28, 2020 11:00 AM

- There is 1 confirmed case of COVID-19 in Acton.
- The Board of Health reminds all residents that all playgrounds and recreational facilities are closed and residents should not be congregating at these locations. Do your part, as everyone in Acton has a role in helping to contain the spread. We need to limit exposure to all of our residents from this highly contagious virus. Our rail trails and conservation areas remain open but residents are reminded to practice social distancing at all times.
- ActonTV produced an informational video called the "The Epidemic and You" with advice and commentary from local medical professionals. View the video here <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- The March 27 episode of the Senior Center program called "Java with John" is available online here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMbsY5UyAEk&t=1051s> This program has updates on Town of Acton's response to COVID-19 and important updates from Acton Nursing, Acton Council on Aging, and Acton Memorial Library.
- There is a video published on youtube explaining precautions you might take when bringing groceries and other food into the house. It is posted here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjDuwc9KBps>
- Acton's Annual Town Election has been postponed until June 2, 2020 which is also the new date for the Special State Election. Voters are encouraged to vote by mail through absentee or early voting. For more details go to <http://actonma.gov/election>
- Board of Selectmen and Board of Health voted to temporarily suspend enforcement of the local plastic bag ban until July 1, 2020.
- The Board of Selectmen approved a temporary emergency policy directive for public employees and public meetings and public hearings for remote participation. This policy is available online at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- The Finance Department published COVID-19 related FAQs on its web page: <https://www.actonma.gov/132/Finance>
- The transfer station is operating at normal hours with restrictions in place to implement social distancing practices.
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.

- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text COVIDMA to 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for March 27, 2020 9:00 AM

- There is 1 confirmed case of COVID-19 in Acton.
- ActonTV produced an informational video called the "The Epidemic and You" with commentary from local medical professionals. View the video here <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- Acton's Annual Town Election has been postponed until June 2, 2020 which is also the new date for the Special State Election. Voters are encouraged to vote by mail through absentee or early voting. For more details go to <http://actonma.gov/election>
- Board of Selectmen and Board of Health voted to temporarily suspend enforcement of the local plastic bag ban until July 1, 2020.
- The Board of Selectmen approved a temporary emergency policy directive for public employees and public meetings and public hearings for remote participation. This policy is available online at <http://www.actonma.gov/covid19>
- The Finance Department published COVID-19 related FAQs on its web page: <https://www.actonma.gov/132/Finance>
- The transfer station is operating at normal hours with restrictions in place to implement social distancing practices.
- A live broadcast of the Senior Center program called "Java with John" will be held today at 10am broadcast on ActonTV's youtube channel <https://www.youtube.com/actontv1> and our radio station WAEM 94.9 FM. This program will provide updates on Town of Acton's response to COVID-19 and provide an opportunity for seniors and residents to ask questions virtually. It will also be shown later on Acton TV
- All town buildings, playgrounds, recreation fields, and the skate park remain closed to the public.
- Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton's FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are broadcasting public meetings and other current information and programming.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text COVIDMA to 888-777

COVID-19 Updates for March 26, 2020 5:15 PM

- The Town of Acton has been notified by the Department of Public Health of the town's first positive case of COVID-19.
- Acton Public Health Nurses are working closely with the resident and will notify others who may have been in contact with them. The person with COVID-19 is in isolation and is recovering at home, per DPH orders. Public health officials are conducting contact tracing to identify and provide guidelines to anyone who has been in close contact with this case.

- In order to protect the resident's medical privacy rights, no additional information will be disclosed about the patient.

Social Distancing and Hygiene

- The Town of Acton encourages residents to practice social distancing -- remaining at least six feet away from others, and Gov. Baker has temporarily banned gatherings of more than 10 people.
- Social distancing will help to minimize exposure among people, especially given that COVID-19 is highly contagious and people may be contagious prior to exhibiting symptoms.
- Local, state and federal health officials are encouraging residents to take the following precautions to prevent infectious diseases, such as the flu and COVID-19, from spreading:
 - Washing hands with soap and water, scrubbing hands for at least 20 seconds before rinsing or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%-95% alcohol.
 - Frequently clean commonly touched surfaces, including phones, tablets, keyboards, doorknobs, light switches, faucet handles, toilet flushers, countertops.
 - Avoid sharing personal items such as lip balm, water bottles, eating utensils, etc.
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when coughing or sneezing and then wash hands.
 - Community members should stay home and avoid contact with others when experiencing flu-like symptoms including a fever of 100.4 and should remain home until symptom-free and/or fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Additional Guidelines

As always, if anyone displays symptoms of COVID-19, including a fever, cough or shortness of breath, they should not come to work or school and they are advised to contact their primary care physician.

The DPH recommends that residents continue with good hygiene practices including:

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds including under your fingernails. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol content) can be used when soap and water are not available.
- Keep your hands away from your face.
- Cover your nose and mouth when sneezing and coughing with a tissue and discard it immediately. Cough into the sleeve over your elbow instead of your hand. Wash your hands often when coughing and sneezing.
- Stay away from people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid social gatherings with large groups, particularly if you are over the age of 60, have underlying health conditions, a weakened immune system or are pregnant.

COVID-19, the illness caused by the novel coronavirus, has been declared a Global Pandemic by the World Health Organization and has moved Governor Baker to declare a State of Emergency and President Donald Trump to declare a National Emergency. Governor Baker on Thursday also made a formal request to the federal government for a Major Disaster Declaration.

Police, Fire and EMS Services

The Acton Police and Fire Departments are fully staffed and prepared to respond to any emergencies. Officers, firefighters and medics may appear different and may be wearing additional personal protective equipment (PPE) when responding to calls and their interactions with the public will be different, out of an abundance of caution and for the safety of first responders.

If emergency fire or medical services are needed, residents should inform the 911 dispatcher if they or anyone they have been in contact with is experiencing signs and symptoms consistent with the COVID-19 virus. The dispatcher should also be alerted if individuals or anyone they live with or have come in contact with have been required to self-quarantine.

When requesting police, fire or emergency medical services, when possible, safe and feasible, residents may also be asked to meet first responders outside their homes.

Residents are asked NOT to dial 911 for questions or concerns about coronavirus/COVID-19. The state has also set up the phone number 211 to answer questions that residents may have concerning COVID-19. If someone feels sick, they are asked to call their primary care provider as a first point of contact.

The Town of Acton has taken the COVID-19 crisis seriously and since March 13 has closed all Town buildings and has limited functions to only essential services to help decrease the spread of the virus. Additionally, the Acton Board of Selectmen and Board of Health declared a local State of Emergency on March 19.

Information on COVID-19 is updated daily on the Town of Acton website, actonma.gov. The Town has also created a COVID-19 information center, which can be accessed at actonma.gov/covid19.

For more information, residents may also visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) website [here](http://cdc.gov) or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's (DPH) website.

COVID-19 Updates for March 25, 2020 8:30 AM

- No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton.
- Acton's Annual Town Election has been postponed until June 2, 2020 which is also the new date for the Special State Election. Voters are encouraged to vote by mail through absentee or early voting. For more details go to <http://actonma.gov/elections>
- Board of Selectmen voted to work with the Board of Health to temporarily suspend the plastic bag ban until July 1, 2020. The Board of Health meets on Thursday.

- Governor Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health both issued a “Stay-at-home Advisory” effective 03/24/2020 at noon. All residents are being asked to only leave their home for essential needs such as food, pharmacy and healthcare services as well as COVID-19 essential workers, to name a few. Please see the full MDPH Advisory and Governor Bakers list of COVID-19 Essential Services for further guidelines to help decrease the spread of community acquired COVID-19.
- The Board of Health have ordered that all portable bathrooms and public bathrooms, not in support of essential services, shall remain closed during this public health emergency.
- The Finance Department published COVID-19 related FAQs on its web page: <https://actonma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6282/COVID-19-FAQ-Finance-3-23-2020?bidId=>
- The transfer station is operating at normal hours with social distancing practices in place.
- All town buildings remain closed to the public.
- Many of Acton’s restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.
- Stay tuned to the Town of Acton’s FM radio station WAEM 94.9 as we are starting to broadcast public meetings and other current information and programming.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text COVIDMA to 888-777

COVID-19 Response Updates for March 24, 2020 2:00 PM

- No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton.
- The March 31st Special State Election to fill vacancy in the 37th Middlesex District is postponed to a new date set as June 2, 2020.
- The Board of Selectmen will meet to consider setting a new date for the postponed Annual Town Election which was also scheduled for March 31st.
- Governor Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health both issued a “Stay-at-home Advisory” effective 03/24/2020 at noon. Along with this advisory, Governor Baker also issued an emergency order requiring all businesses and organizations that are not providing COVID-19 essential services close their physical workplaces to workers, customers and the public. All residents are being asked to only leave their home for essential needs such as food, pharmacy and healthcare services as well as COVID-19 essential workers, to name a few. Please see the full MDPH Advisory and Governor Bakers list of COVID-19 Essential Services for further guidelines to help decrease the spread of community acquired COVID-19.
- For the most up to date information of COVID-19 via text messages from state officials text COVIDMA to 888-777
- The Board of Health have ordered that all portable bathrooms and public bathrooms, not in support of essential services, shall remain closed during this public health emergency.
- The transfer station is operating at normal hours with social distancing practices in place.
- All town buildings remain closed to the public.

- Today, March 24, is the Great American Takeout. Many of Acton's restaurants remain open for takeout and delivery. Visit www.actonrestaurantweek.com for more details.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Response Updates for March 23, 2020 8:30 PM

- No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton.
- Earlier today Governor Baker issued a "stay at home advisory" and has also required non-essential businesses to close to the public starting tomorrow through April 7th. View the full details at <http://www.mass.gov>
- All town buildings remain closed to the public.
- The transfer station is operating at normal hours with social distancing practices in place.
- The Board of Health met tonight to discuss further measures to help our community respond COVID-19 situation.
- Starting tonight we are activating our FM radio station WAEM 94.9 to provide information to residents. The Board of Health meeting was broadcast and stay tuned for more programming this week.
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Response Updates for March 22, 2020 12:00 PM

- No confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Acton
- Per order of the Board of Health all playgrounds and playing fields are closed until further notice.
- Board of Health and Board of Selectmen voted to declare a local state of emergency. View the declaration here <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6269/March-2020-Declaration-of-Local-Emergency>
- Board of Health closed all personal care services which cannot be provided at a distance of at least six (6) feet effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 including hairdressers, nail salons, massage services, body art. View the full order here: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6270/boh-ban-effective-March-21st-at-8am>
- The Board of Health is meeting Monday evening and the Board of Selectmen is meeting Tuesday evening. Check the agenda listing for info on how to participate virtually.
- View updated information on available food resources at www.actonma.gov/covid19 under our Community Resources information
- A new video showing some of the measures we are taking as a community is available here: www.actonma.gov/covid19
- New COVID-19 related resources available for businesses at www.actonma.gov/business
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19. This includes limiting social gatherings to no more than 10 people in one location.

COVID-19 Response Updates for March 20, 2020 1:00 PM

- Number of confirmed cases in Acton: 0

- Board of Health and Board of Selectmen voted to declare a local state of emergency. View the declaration here <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6269/March-2020-Declaration-of-Local-Emergency>
- Board of Health closed all local services to the public which cannot be provided at a distance of at least six (6) feet effective Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 8:00 AM including hairdressers, nail salons, massage services, body art. View the full order here: <https://www.acton-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6270/boh-ban-effective-March-21st-at-8am>
- Public buildings and playgrounds closed until further notice
- A daily bagged lunch pickup program has been announced by AB Schools in collaboration with the AB Neighbor Brigade see details at www.abschools.org
- A new video showing some of the measures we are taking as a community is available here: www.actonma.gov/covid19
- New COVID-19 related resources available for businesses at www.actonma.gov/business
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet between yourself and others to help decrease the transmission of COVID-19. This includes limiting social gatherings to no more than 10 people in one location.