



September 23, 2020
Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea
Manchester Board of Health
COVID-19 and EEE Update

Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea COVID-19 and EEE Updates

COVID-19 UPDATE

Manchester Total Positive Case Number as of Wednesday, September 23, 2020: 23

In order to protect the privacy and confidentiality of individuals who test positive for COVID-19, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has asked that towns only publicly share **positive** case numbers.

Each **Wednesday** the Board of Health will continue to release an update on the COVID-19 cases in Manchester-by-the-Sea.

EEE UPDATE

Manchester Total Positive Mosquito Testing Results as of Wednesday, September 23, 2020: 0

(This number is based on mosquito collection and testing completed 9/14/20 – 9/18/20)

Each **Wednesday** the Board of Health will update the community on the prevalence of Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Manchester-by-the-Sea testing samples.

BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE

Flu Vaccine Now Required for all Massachusetts School Students Enrolled in Child Care, Pre-School, K-12, and Post-Secondary Institutions [MA Flu Vaccine Requirement](#)

Please continue to practice the following preventive actions for COVID-19:

- Avoid groups larger than 25 indoors and 50 outdoors.
- Maintain a social distance of 6 feet from others.
- Wear a face covering inside public spaces, outside when a 6 ft. distance is not possible, and in groups over 10.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects with a disinfectant or regular household detergent and water.
- Follow the guidelines of www.mass.gov, www.cdc.gov, and www.manchester.ma.us

If you have further questions for the Board of Health, please contact Ellen Lufkin at lufkine@manchester.ma.us.



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNITY UPDATES

- **NEW!** The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MA-DPH) wants to better help people through the COVID-19 crisis. By taking the following MA-DPH survey, you can help find new solutions to community problems, and give MA-DPH the information they need to take action and support the communities that need it most. MA-DPH is committed to sharing information back in ways that will help us all take collective action. This survey will help DPH better understand the impact of COVID-19 on our communities, and they are encouraging anyone who is 14 years old or older to participate using this link: [MA DPH Survey](#)
- **NEW!** The Manchester Board of Health will hold an adult flu clinic (age 18 and over) on Wednesday, October 7th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Due to COVID-19 pre-registration is required to attend the clinic. To schedule an appointment, please contact the Board of Health office at lufkine@manchester.ma.us or 978 526 7385. Manchester residents who are home bound may also contact the Board of Health to schedule a home visit.
- **NEW!** Manchester Parks and Recreation Department is overseeing the MERSD Middle School Sport Program this fall. If you are interested in signing up your 6th -8th grader please visit mbtsrec.com to register. The deadline is 3p.m. on September 24th. The Hornets After School Program is also returning in November!
- Public Forum on Manchester's Limited Commercial District (40R): Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 6 p.m. Register here. This public visioning session will begin with an overview of Manchester's Limited Commercial District and the potential for a 40R zoning district. Afterwards, participants will be asked to complete a survey to share their priorities for the area, including what types of uses should be supported, how the new neighborhood should look and feel, and how it could connect to and interact with the greater community.
- New grant program to support MBTS micro-businesses impacted by the pandemic. Manchester joined 22 other communities in the greater Boston metropolitan region in securing federally funded Community Development Block Grant dollars through the CARES Act of 2020. Manchester's allocation is \$63,000. The Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) is administering the program. Applications are available [here](#) and are due by September 25th. Businesses interested in applying should visit the website for details on the application process and fill out the on-line application.
- Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Proper COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place. Early voting will start at Town Hall on October 17th. The last day to register to vote is Saturday, October 24, 2020. Voting by mail is also an option – send in your request to the Town Clerk's Office if you did not do so prior to the primary election. [MBTS Election Information](#)
- Licensing is required to operate in-home "learning pods" for K-12 students in MA. Please contact the Selectmen's Office for more information. To read the official guidance please visit [Governor Baker's Order on Childcare During School](#) and [Guidance from EEC and DECE](#).
- Dogs will be allowed to accompany residents to the beach beginning October 15th.



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNITY UPDATES (Continued)

- Manchester Beach Update: All Manchester beaches will remain open to residents only through October 15th. The Parks and Recreation Department and the Manchester Police Department will continue to staff Singing Beach on weekends and on warmer weekdays. Parking stickers and beach tags will be required to access the beach during this time.
- The MA Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) issued an amendment to the MA Phase 3 Recreational Boating Guidelines. All users while on boat ramps, docks and piers shall follow social distancing. Rafting-up or tying-up of boats is limited to **no more than 3 vessels**.
- Governor Baker issued a Community Level Data Map to help keep residents informed about COVID-19. [COVID-19 Community Map](#)
- On August 11, 2020, Governor Baker reduced the outdoor gathering limit to 50 people. The indoor gathering size limit remains at 25. [Mass.gov](#)
- A face covering is required in groups larger than 10.
- Restaurants may only serve alcohol on-site if accompanied by orders for food prepared on-site.
- A Travel Order is in effect per order of the Governor. Please read requirements on traveling to and from Massachusetts. [MA Travel Order](#). Complaints should be directed to DPH.COVID.Complaints@mass.gov
- COVID-19 testing sites [COVID-19 Interactive Map of Testing Sites](#)
- Business & Workplace Complaints: Residents or employees who wish to take steps to report a business or workplace that is non compliant with reopening standards and protocols may contact: Department of Labor Standards (DLS) safepublicworkplacemailbox@mass.gov, COVID-19 Hotline 211 or the Manchester Board of Health [BOH Complaint Form](#)
- On Monday, July 6, 2020 the Governor moved MA to Phase 3 of reopening. To view the current state guidelines please visit www.mass.gov
- Visit the Business Guide on the Town website to find hours and services offered by our local retail and food businesses. [Manchester Business Guide](#)
- 2020 Mosquito Control Plan can be found [here](#). Opt-out instructions can be found [here](#).
- The Manchester Affordable Housing Trust (MAHT), in collaboration with Action, Inc., a Gloucester-based human and social services agency, is offering short-term rental housing and mortgage payment assistance to income eligible Manchester residents in response to job and income loss related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Contact Action, Inc. at 978-282-1000 or live chat at Actioninc.org for assistance.
- DPW has made an update to trash collection guidelines due to COVID-19. All trash must be ENTIRELY contained within a tied orange bag. Nothing must be sticking out.
- The Manchester Police Department and Council on Aging are assisting residents who need delivery of local groceries and prescriptions. To make a request please contact the Police Department at (978)526-1212



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNICATION PLAN

All COVID-19 related information will continue to be conveyed to the public through the Town website (www.manchester.ma.us), email alerts, Town social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter), the Manchester Cricket and reverse 911 calls (when necessary). Residents are encouraged to follow at least one of these mediums to stay informed.

The Board of Health and Board of Selectmen will update the public daily (as needed) when new guidelines are released from the State or when important changes occur to Manchester-by-the-Sea operations and services.

Would you like to receive important Town notices like this via email? Subscribe to email alerts at [Notify Me](#). Under Alert Center choose "MBTS Alerts" (for time sensitive and emergency information) and under News Flash choose "MBTS News Updates" (for important MBTS events and updates).

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