



February 17, 2021  
Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea  
Manchester Board of Health  
COVID-19 Community Update

### ***Town of Manchester-by-the-Sea COVID-19 Updates***

#### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

**Manchester Total Positive Case Number (to date) as of Wednesday, February 17, 2021: 187**

**Active Cases: 3**

*(Last week's COVID-19 numbers reported on 2/10/21: Total cases – 183, Active cases – 4)*

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has instructed all local boards of health with populations less than 10,000 to only report total positive cases: "In order to protect privacy and confidentiality of individuals who test positive for COVID-19. We understand that many boards of health find value in sharing community-specific data as part of a risk communication plan and to keep the public informed about the scope of the local public health effort. If you choose to share numbers of cases for these purposes, please do so with the highest regard for privacy and confidentiality by not including any information other than the case count."

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

#### **BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE**

**Thank you to the staff, volunteers and Sacred Heart Church for help making the COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on February 13 a success. We were able to vaccinate over 300 of our most vulnerable residents!**

**Violations as of 2/17/21:** The Board of Health and Manchester Police have not issued any new violations in the past week.

**COVID-19 Testing:** [COVID-19 Testing Site Locator](#), [Stop the Spread Sites](#), [COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

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

- Avoid indoor gatherings and gatherings with non-household members.
- Wash your hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.
- Wear face masks when in public places/spaces, at any distance.
- If you do not feel well, stay home except to get COVID-19 tested.
- If you think you have been exposed, isolate at home, until you get tested.
- If you test positive or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive, please answer the phone call from the Board of Health to received guidance and complete contact tracing.
- Follow the guidelines of [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov), [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), and [www.manchester.ma.us](http://www.manchester.ma.us)

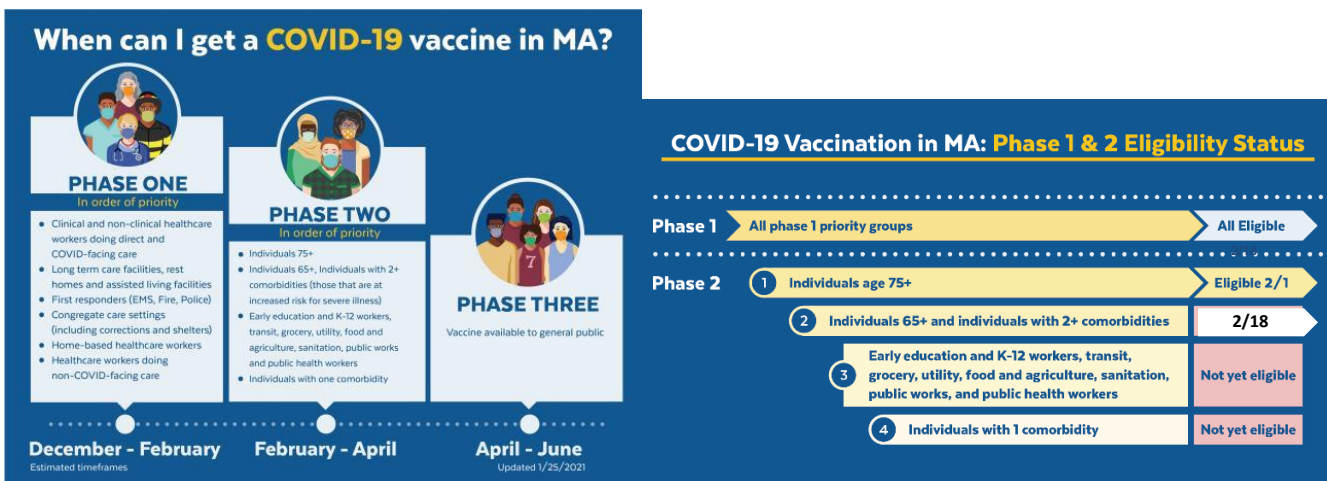
If you have further questions for the Board of Health, please contact Ellen Lufkin at [lufkine@manchester.ma.us](mailto:lufkine@manchester.ma.us).



## NEW MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNITY UPDATES

- NEW! COVID-19 Vaccine Status:** On February 18, Residents 65+, residents and staff of affordable senior housing, and people with 2+ medical conditions will be eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine in MA. Appointments are required. Click on the following link to learn more and to book an appointment at a mass vaccination site: [COVID Vaccine Phases](#) Supply is limited, appointments may take longer to secure.
- NEW! Eligibility for 2+ Comorbidities:** Click [here](#) to find out what conditions are eligible in the next phase of vaccine distribution.
- NEW! Manchester Second Dose Vaccine Clinic for Residents 75+:** The follow-up clinic for the second dose of vaccine will be on March 6 at Sacred Heart Parish Hall. Please arrive at the same time as your first dose and bring your vaccine card, ID and insurance cards. **Only those who received a vaccine on February 13 are eligible to return on March 6.** We will NOT be administering any new vaccines (first doses) on March 6. Please contact the Board of Health office with any questions.
- NEW! Public Forum on the Limited Commercial District (LCD):** On Monday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m. the Planning Board will host a public forum to discuss commercial opportunities in the LCD. Meeting Details can be found here: [LCD Public Forum](#)
- Eligibility for 75+ Caregivers:** One caregiver per each 75+ attendee may attend the MA mass vaccination clinics only. Pre-registration is required. [MA Companion Information](#)
- NEW! Route 128 Exit Signs:** MassDOT is converting all exit numbers on freeways to a milepost-based numbering system, per Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirement. Exit 15 (*School Street*) will become Exit 50 and Exit 16 (*Pine Street*) will become Exit 49.
- NEW! MBTA Public Meetings Regarding Changes to Commuter Rail Schedule:** The MBTA will be hosting virtual public meetings on February 24 to answer questions about proposed schedule changes to the commuter rail schedule due to low ridership during the pandemic. [MBTA Public Meetings](#)

Find a vaccination site: [MA COVID-19 Vaccine Locations](#)





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

- Capacity Changes in MA Businesses: Effective February 8, restaurants and businesses can increase capacity to 40%.
- Volunteer with MA Medical Reserve Corps: Thank you to the residents who have contacted the Town to generously offer volunteer services in the effort to fight COVID-19. The MA Medical Reserve Corp is looking for volunteers at the local level, both medical and non-medical. Click [here](#) to register.
- Beach Stickers: 2021 Beach Stickers are on sale online or via mail. Please click [here](#) for complete details and instructions. 2020 Parking Stickers are valid through May 31, 2021. *New rule for 2021! Stickers must be placed inside the front, driver side windshield in the upper left-hand corner.*
- Facts about the COVID-19 Vaccine: [Vaccine Distribution Details](#) [Vaccine FAQ](#)
- COVID-19 Vaccination Questions: You can e-mail questions to [COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov](mailto:COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov)
- Travel Guidance for Arriving in MA: [MA Arrival Travel Order](#). Complaints should be directed to [DPH.COVID.Complaints@mass.gov](mailto:DPH.COVID.Complaints@mass.gov)
- Annual Town Nominations: Interested in running for local office? Nomination papers for Manchester-by-the-Sea's Annual Town Election are available to mail out to candidates—by request. Papers are due by April 1. Complete details can be found [here](#).
- Gathering Size Reminder: The current gathering order allows up to 10 indoors and 25 outdoors. [MA Gathering Order](#)
- Singing Beach Reminder: A mask is required, *at ALL times*, when visiting Singing Beach in accordance with the MA Face Covering Order. Please do not gather in large groups. Each person is limited to a maximum of two dogs.
- MA Quarantine Instructions: The state has updated the quarantine guidelines. If you have been instructed to quarantine, please adhere to the following rules: [Quarantine Instructions](#)
- MA Rolls Back to Phase 3 Step 1: The new restrictions took effect on December 13. Please read the following guidance: [MA Phase 3 Step 1](#)
- Town Hall is Closed to the Public: Town Hall will be closed to the public until further notice. Staff will be available during normal business hours via appointment, phone or email. [Staff Directory](#)
- Allen's Pharmacy COVID-19 Testing Site: Allen's Pharmacy is operating a COVID-19 PCR testing site. Appointments are required and can be scheduled [here](#). Information on Veritas PCR Testing can be found [here](#).
- Face Covering Order for MA: All persons over the age of 5 are required to wear a face covering in all public spaces, indoor and outdoor, regardless of distance. (effective 11/6/20) [Face Covering Order](#)



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

- MA Carpooling Guidance: Limit the number of occupants, all occupants should wear a face covering, open vehicle windows, clean touch points frequently.
- Licensing is required to operate certain 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](#).
- Restaurants may only serve alcohol on-site if accompanied by orders for food prepared on-site.
- Business & Workplace Complaints: Residents or employees who wish to take steps to report a business or workplace that is non complaint with reopening standards and protocols may contact: Department of Labor Standards (DLS) [safepublicworkplacemailbox@mass.gov](mailto:safepublicworkplacemailbox@mass.gov), COVID-19 Hotline 211 or the Manchester Board of Health [BOH Complaint Form](#)
- 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](http://Actioninc.org) for assistance.
- 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](http://www.manchester.ma.us)), email alerts, Town social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter) and the Manchester Cricket. Residents are encouraged to follow at least one of these mediums to stay informed.

Reverse 911 calls ([Code Red](#)) will be used when necessary.

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, such as 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).

Follow us on social media!

Facebook - @townofMBTSOfficial | Instagram - @townofmbts | Twitter - @townofmbts