



Adam D. Gaudette
Town Manager

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER
NORTHBRIDGE TOWN HALL
7 MAIN STREET
WHITINSVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS 01588
Phone- (508) 234-2095 Fax- (508) 234-7640
www.northbridgemass.org

PRESS RELEASE

Cases of COVID-19 Confirmed

Update: May 18, 2020

The Northbridge Board of Health has been notified of **Two Hundred Sixty-Four (264)** confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Town of Northbridge as of the date of this Press Release. Please note that the identity of these individuals cannot be released. Public health officials identify contacts of case-patients and notify those individuals of their exposure so that they will take protective measures. Please note the following information that can be provided:

Positive Cases in Northbridge	264
Cases within Long-Term Care Facilities (LTC)	154
Cases considered Town Residents (non-LTC)	110
Town Resident Cases No Longer Under Investigation	73

Note that these numbers may be different than the State's weekly reports due to discrepancies that may occur in terms of reporting between the MA DPH and the electronic reporting system used by municipalities. The State is expected to issue weekly reports of "Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in MA by City/Town" on their website at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring>.

The number of cases in Massachusetts continues to rise. As of this Press Release, the State MEMA Office has confirmed **87,052** total cases here in Massachusetts, with **5,862** COVID-19 related deaths. Patients tested by MA State Public Health Laboratory, hospitals, and commercial laboratories is **460,826**.

So that we may protect the health and safety of our community, we continue to strongly urge ALL residents to adopt the following measures:

- Follow the "Stay at Home" advisory issued by Governor Baker on March 23rd;
- Follow the "Face Coverings" Order issued by Governor Baker, effective May 6th;

- Practice social distancing by avoiding groups of ten or more people and keeping a distance of six feet from others;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds or longer, and use a hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol if soap and water are not available;
- Cover coughs and sneezes, throw tissues away and wash your hands immediately afterward; and
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The Town's office buildings continue to be closed to the public and staff are mainly working remotely. Services are continuing to be provided and we encourage residents/business to utilize electronic means to communicate with staff. All department-specific information can be found at the Town's website at www.northbridgemass.org.

More information on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and Frequently Asked Questions and Answers can be found on the Town's Board of Health COVID-19 page at <https://www.northbridgemass.org/board-of-health/pages/new-2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19>.

You can also visit the State of Massachusetts COVID-19 page directly at <https://www.mass.gov/covid19> for the latest news, case counts, and lab testing results. Call 2-1-1 with questions. Text the keyword **COVIDMA** to **888-777** to receive notifications to your phone. To receive these notifications in Spanish, text **COVIDMAESP** to **888-777**.

The health and safety of residents and the community are the top priority of all Town Officials. By working together and supporting each other we will meet this challenge.