

TOWN OF HATFIELD

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Board of Health

Robert Osley, Chair Jeffrey Zgrodnik Elizabeth Kugler

November 23, 2020

Board of Selectmen

Diana Szynal, Chair Edmund Jaworski **Brian Moriarty**

This is a message from the Town of Hatfield. As cases of the COVID-19 Coronavirus continue, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Health feel it is important we take measures to protect our employees and residents to reduce the spread of the virus.

The Town Hall remains closed until further notice to the public. Offices can be reached by phone or email. All bills that need to be paid, will need to be done by mail, drop box or online through the town website. The Hatfield public schools also are closed and will be fully remote learning with a plan to be back in person on Monday, November 30th, after evaluation of town numbers and other community numbers at that time. There will be lunches served every day from 12:00-12:45pm and can be picked up at Smith Academy, lunches remain free to all students and families are encouraged to pick up lunch for their children.

As we continue with Phase 3, Step 2, please go to www.mass.gov to be able to see all new guidelines set by Governor Baker, most recently being on 11/6. Per the new guidelines masks must be worn in public at all times, gatherings in Hatfield are limited to 10 people or less at residences, 25 people or less for indoor gatherings at a banquet hall etc., and no more than 100 people at an outside event location. Also the state has set a curfew of 10pm-5am to be home and not out unless you are going to and from work or you have an emergency and need to leave your home during that time. Restaurants must close by 9:30 PM for indoor and outdoor dining. Playgrounds remain open, basketball hoops will remain down till after the winter season. All questions, concerns and complaints can be directed to the COVID Coordinator at any time, she can be reached at 413-247-9200 ext. 105 or email kflaherty@townofhatfield.org. All information gets forwarded to both the BOS and the BOH so that all boards are updated with the information and questions.

As of today, Monday, November 23, 2020 the Town of Hatfield has 2 new positive cases, totaling 41 for the town from 1/1/20-11/23/20 and we have 3 that are in quarantine and 1 hospitalized, all the rest that were quarantined have been released and are no longer showing symptoms and followed all guidelines about isolation and quarantine. All contact tracing has been completed at this time. If you did not receive a phone call directly or were not informed by one of the positive cases, then you are not an immediate exposure. Also, there is not one general location or event that caused all these cases. Please continue to follow the CDC guidelines and adhere to the 6' social distancing recommendations and you MUST be wearing a mask or mouth and nose coverage, wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers. We ask that if you have not been given direct information from the town specifically about cases, exposures, or "hot spots" to please not spread false information, all that does is cause unneeded panic during a very serious and scary time and we don't need that in the community.

For those who plan on traveling during the holidays, please remember to follow the Massachusetts state guidelines, they are as follows.

--All visitors entering Massachusetts, including returning residents, who do not meet an exemption, are required to:

- Complete the **Massachusetts Travel Form** prior to arrival, unless you are visiting from a <u>lower-risk state</u> designated by the <u>Department of Public Health</u>.
- Quarantine for 14 days or produce a negative COVID-19 test result that has been administered up to 72-hours prior to your arrival in Massachusetts.

If your COVID-19 test result has not been received prior to arrival, visitors, and residents must quarantine until they receive a negative test result.

Failure to comply may result in a \$500 fine per day.

Please find more information on the state website which gives further details on what to be doing.

The town will be providing updates every Monday evening or as new information becomes available. Residents are encouraged to go to the town website and click on the CodeRed link on the home page and register to make sure you get all emergency notifications from the town.

Please have a safe and happy holiday!!

Kerry Flaherty COVID Coordinator