



September 16, 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 16, 2020: 22**

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 16, 2020: 0**

*(This number is based on mosquito collection and testing completed 9/07/20 – 9/11/20)*

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](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).



## MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNITY UPDATES

- **NEW!** 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.
- **NEW!** 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 17<sup>th</sup>. 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](#)
- **NEW!** The Board of Health will be holding a flu clinic for residents 18+ this fall. Dates, times, and location are coming soon!
- **NEW!** 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!** The Town Common is now open to the public. The stairs to the Police Department will be temporarily blocked until permanent railings are installed. Residents can now access Town Hall via the front door. Work on the new Honor Roll Memorial is slated to start next week and should be completed by early November.
- 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 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.
- Manchester Parks and Recreation Department is offering a variety of after school activities for MBTS kids this fall. Visit their website at [MBTS Parks & Rec Programs](#) to register. The Hornets After School Program is returning in November!



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

- 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](#).
- Travel Order Complaints: Mass DPH announces complaints related to the Governor's Travel Order are to be directed to [DPH.COVID.Complaints@mass.gov](mailto: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 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](#)
- 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](http://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](#).
- MA issued new grocery store guidance on April 7, 2020 limiting occupancy to 40% including employees.
- 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.
- 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](http://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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