



March 10, 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, March 10, 2021: 200

Active Cases: 3

(Last week's COVID-19 numbers reported on 3/3/21: Total cases – 198, Active cases – 6)

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

Currently, residents 65+, K-12 educators, residents and staff of affordable senior housing, first responders and people with 2+ medical conditions are 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: [MA COVID-19 Vaccine Locations, COVID Vaccine Phases](#)

Violations as of 3/10/21: The Board of Health and Manchester Police have not issued any new violations in the past week.

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, 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.



NEW MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA COMMUNITY UPDATES

- NEW! MA Vaccine Pre-registration Website Announced:** Governor Baker announced a new preregistration signup tool will be available for the state's 7 mass vaccination sites starting Friday, March 12. It will replace the current online booking platforms for mass vaccination sites. More sites will be added to the preregistration system in the coming weeks. [Vaccine Information](#)
- NEW! Educators Vaccine Update:** On March 11, K-12 educators, childcare workers, and K-12 school staff are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine in MA. Educators may receive vaccine from any of the 170 public vaccine sites. *The State will also designate 4 days where the state's 7 mass vaccination sites will only offer 1st dose appointments for educators. The dates are Saturday, March 27, Saturday, April 3, Saturday, April 10, and Sunday, April 11.*
- NEW! DPW Roadwork Alert:** Sewer pipe lining is taking place on School Street and along Sawmill Brook for the next few weeks. Impacted households will be notified directly. Traffic may be detoured at times.
- NEW! Annual Town Meeting Postponed:** Due to COVID-19, the Board of Selectmen voted to postpone the Annual Town Meeting until Monday, June 21 at 6:30 p.m. on the MERSD athletic field.
- NEW! MBTS Seasonal Help:** The Parks and Recreation Department is accepting applications for Summer Playground and Singing Beach staff - Apply [here](#). DPW is also looking for seasonal help – Apply [here](#).
- NEW! Manchester Cemetery Owners:** Department of Public Works requests that lot owners/representatives remove all decorations from graves of all Manchester cemeteries by Monday, April 5 to enable the DPW staff to begin grounds maintenance work. Any items left behind will be removed and disposed.
- NEW! 40B Workshop:** The next meeting to discuss the 40B project proposal will take place on Thursday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting details, past recording and important information can be found [here](#).
- NEW! Excise Tax:** Excise tax bills have been mailed and are due on Monday, March 15. Please contact the Tax Collectors Office at 978-526-2030 with any questions.
- NEW! Nomination Papers:** Get involved in our community and run for local office! Nomination papers are available to be mailed. Please contact the Town Clerks office at 978-526-2040 or townclerk@manchester.ma.us to make a request. [2021 Local Election](#)

When can I get a COVID-19 vaccine in MA?

Phase	Eligibility Groups	Timeline
PHASE ONE	Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care; Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities; First responders (EMS, Fire, Police); Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters); Home-based healthcare workers; Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care	December - February
PHASE TWO	Individuals 75+; Individuals 65+ individuals with 2+ comorbidities (those that are at increased risk for severe illness); Early education and K-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers; Individuals with one comorbidity	February - April
PHASE THREE	Vaccine available to general public	April - June

Updated 1/25/2021

COVID-19 Vaccination in MA: Phase 1 & 2 Eligibility Status

Phase	Group	Status
Phase 1	All phase 1 priority groups	Now eligible
Phase 2	1 Individuals age 75+	Now eligible
	2 Individuals 65+ and individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions	Now eligible
	3 K-12 educators, child care workers, and school staff	Eligible on 3/11
	4 Transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation public works, and public health workers	Not yet eligible
	5 Individuals with 1 certain medical condition	Not yet eligible



CURRENT MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA GUIDANCE

- COVID-19 Testing: [COVID-19 Testing Site Locator](#), [Stop the Spread Sites](#), [COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- MA is in Phase 3 Step 2 of Reopening: Restaurants are permitted to operate with six-foot social distancing, limits of six people per table and 90 minute limits. Other businesses can operate at 50% capacity. Additional details can be found [here](#).
- Eligibility for 2+ Comorbidities: Click [here](#) to find out what conditions are eligible in the next phase of vaccine distribution.
- Call Center for Vaccine Assistance: A new call center is now available to MA residents who do not have access to the internet or have a language barrier. The phone lines will be open daily from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. Please call 978-717-3700.
- 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
- Travel Guidance for Arriving in MA: [MA Arrival Travel Order](#). Complaints should be directed to DPH.COVID.Complaints@mass.gov
- Gathering Size Restriction: The current gathering order allows up to 10 indoors and 25 outdoors at private residences.
- 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](#)
- 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](#).



CURRENT MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA GUIDANCE (Continued)

- 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](#)
- 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 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](#)
- 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](https://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), 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).

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