



Board of Health
39 South Street
Hinsdale, MA 01235
public.health@hinsdale.ma.gov
413-655-2300, x345

Town of Hinsdale

March 11, 2020

To the Selectboard
Town of Hinsdale
Hinsdale, MA 01235

Re: CORONA VIRUS (COVID19)

Dear Board Members,

As you are likely aware preparations for proper procedures to respond to the corona virus in our area are underway. Yesterday the Governor of Massachusetts declared a State of Emergency to Support Commonwealth's Response to Coronavirus.

At this point our schools are open and organized events are on-going.

Non-pharmaceutical Interventions are recommended for everyone in the community. These include the following:

- Frequent and thorough hand washing
- Use of hand sanitizer if available
- Cover sneezes with a tissue, or sneeze into your elbow
- Do not attend work, or public events if you are sick
- Sanitize home and workspace surfaces with a bleach solution or sanitizing wipes
- Social Distancing: remain at least 6 feet away from others in group spaces such as the supermarket when possible

If a resident of Hinsdale is diagnosed with, or suspected of having been exposed to, the virus the Board of Health will be notified by the Berkshire Visiting Nurse Association. At that point the Board of Health will report the occurrence to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) as well as the Selectboard and any other relevant service groups in the town (ie. Police, Fire Department, EMS, etc.).

If Isolation, or Quarantine is required the Board of Health will monitor and report to the DPH to keep track of the status of the person(s). The Board of Health will be responsible for ensuring the basic necessities (food, water, shelter, medications, medical treatment, etc.) of them as well.

For those in the community interacting with anyone with a fever, respiratory illness, symptoms of a cold, a history of recent international travel use of a mask is required. This is especially important for our emergency medical service personnel.

If anyone from the Town Administration receives a call from a person suspected of having the virus they should inform the Board of Health and call DPH on their 24/7 hotline at 617-983-6800.

Lastly it is important to rely on information from trusted sources and not social media. These include:

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Berkshire County Board of Health Association
Berkshire Health Systems Hotline – 855-262-5465

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact this office anytime.

Sincerely,



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Office hours:
Wednesday 3:30pm–5:00pm