



Town of Canton, Massachusetts

BOARD OF HEALTH 79 Pleasant Street Canton, Massachusetts 02021

Board of Health
Julie E. Goodman, PhD
Alan Rapoport
Anjali Schutt

Tel.: (781) 821-5021
Fax: (781) 821-0337

Interim Director of Public Health
Steven J Ward, MPH, REHS

Canton Board of Health Advisory Relative to the Operations of Essential Services

April 27, 2020

Whereas, the Town of Canton and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts are affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic;

Whereas, on March 10, 2020, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker declared a state of emergency in Massachusetts for COVID-19;

Whereas, the Massachusetts Commissioner of Public Health has declared that there is community level transmission in Norfolk County;

Whereas, on March 23, 2020, Governor Baker issued COVID-19 Order no. 13 entitled "Order Assuring Continued Operation of Essential Services in the Commonwealth, Closing Certain Workplaces and Prohibiting Gatherings of More than 10 People," which, among other things, restricted public gatherings to 10 people or fewer, closed businesses providing non-essential services, identified certain essential services and assured the continued operations of essential services in the Commonwealth subject to certain conditions;

Whereas, COVID-19 is easily transmitted, especially in group settings, and it is essential that the spread of the virus is slowed to protect the ability of our healthcare providers to handle the surge of new patients and safeguard public health and safety;

Whereas, an increasing number of workers of essential services are infected with COVID-19;

Whereas, an increasing number of residents of multi-unit residential buildings are infected with COVID-19;

Whereas, the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain, such as grocery stores and pharmacies;

Whereas, the CDC recommends that surgical masks or N95 respirators should be reserved for medical professionals and first responders and not used in public settings;

Whereas, CDC has established guidance on how to make cloth face coverings at home (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>);



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Advisory:

- All members of the public aged two years and older entering any essential businesses as defined by Governor Baker's COVID-19 Order No. 13, including but not limited to grocery stores, pharmacies, laundromats, home improvement stores, restaurants (including exterior pickup sites), shall wear a clean face covering, such as a fabric face mask, scarf, or bandana, over their mouth and nose, and exercise social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines. Operators of essential services shall ensure their customers are in compliance with this requirement.
- All employees of all essential services shall wear a clean face covering, such as a fabric face mask, scarf, or bandana, over their mouth and nose, and exercise social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines. Operators of essential services shall ensure their employees are in compliance with this requirement.
- All members of the public aged two years and older entering, exiting, or occupying common areas of any multi-unit residential or commercial building shall wear a clean face covering, such as a fabric face mask, scarf, or bandana, over their mouth and nose, and exercise social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- All nonessential service departments (such as floral, jewelry, furniture, etc.) within a grocery store or box store should be closed.
- Additional best practices should be employed by essential businesses as defined in Governor Baker's COVID-19 Order No. 13 to the maximum extent possible in order to enhance social distancing in grocery stores, pharmacies, and box stores:
 - Offer home delivery options and encourage online ordering and payment.
 - Provide public announcements every 30 minutes to remind shoppers to wear cloth face covering, keep physical distance, avoid crowding, keep distance at check-out, and wait to load items onto conveyor belts until after the customer in front of them has finished their transaction.
 - Consider relocating high demand items to limit the amount of time customers are in the store.
 - Consider where appropriate, the installation of customer-employee barriers (i.e. plexiglass) to minimize the spread of COVID-19
 - Establish one-way only flow for aisle shopping.