

Good evening. On behalf of the Select Board and the Board of Health, this is Fire Chief Charlie Doody with a public health update. As of October 23rd, the number of confirmed COVID cases in Canton is 425 with 33 confirmed cases over the last 14 days. 50 out of the 425 cases or 12%, are reported to be in the 0-19 year-old age range. The highest percentage of positive cases is reported in the 50-59 year-old age range which translates to 80 cases or 19%. There have been 51 reported deaths in Canton. I am happy to report that we have not seen an increase in cases in our nursing homes and long-term care facilities.

The town has had an increased rate of positive cases related to the sport of hockey. In response to this trend, the Governor has ordered a shutdown of hockey rinks beginning today until November 7th in order to stop the spread among players, coaches, fans and family members. Only professional and collegiate interscholastic hockey and skating programs may conduct on-ice activities during this time

For the second week in row, Canton's COVID risk status remains "red" as we have been experiencing increasing positive cases for the last several weeks. As of now, Canton will remain in Phase III, step 2. If as we anticipate, our status remains red for a third consecutive week, Canton will revert back to Phase III, step 1. This change will not impact many of our businesses but will prohibit live entertainment and restrict outdoor gatherings at event venues to no more than 50 persons. Details of the Governors orders 51 and 52 can be found on the Mass.Gov website.

Finally, with colder weather approaching and the end of outdoor dining in sight, be vigilant when opting to dine indoors. Pay attention and patronize establishments that are following the regulations by enforcing mask use of employees and guests when not seated, have tables at least 6' apart, disinfect tables prior to seating you and prohibit people from gathering at the bar. If you choose not dine indoors, you can continue to support our restaurant owners by ordering curb side take out as well. It's important that when you wear a mask, where ever you are, that it fits tightly over your nose, chin and face. If your nose is exposed or you have gaps on the sides, your mask won't protect you or others.

WEEKLY EVERBRIDGE CALL – October 23, 2020

Our daily safety routines are a shared responsibility in our community and requires a full-time commitment to keeping each other safe and healthy. We appreciate everyone's efforts to mitigate the spread and reverse the trend in positive cases. Thank you for listening and stay well.