

Town of Southwick

Board of Health

454 College Highway, Southwick, MA 01077 Phone (413) 569-1212 Fax (413) 569-5284

COVID-19 MANDATORY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR WEARING OF MASKS OR OTHER FACE COVERINGS IN BUSINESSES PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK

Commencing on Saturday, May 2, at 12:01 a.m., the following Policies and Procedures MUST be implemented at all times at all businesses providing essential services in the Town of Southwick.

On April 3, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control issued an Advisory with regard to the wearing of face coverings when people are unable to maintain safe social distancing. On April 10, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health issued a similar Advisory regarding the wearing of face coverings in public. The following Policies and Procedures are intended to expand on those Advisories and to provide specific direction for customers and employees of brick and mortar businesses providing essential services in the Town of Southwick.

MASKS OR FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED FOR EMPLOYEES OF BUSINESSES PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES IN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK

- 1. Employees of businesses providing essential services in which people are unable to maintain safe social distancing in the Town of Southwick are required to wear masks or other face coverings at all times while on the premises of the business.
- 2. The employer of each such employee is required to provide them with a cloth mask or other covering which securely covers the nose and mouth, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, or similar coverings, upon their arrival at the business, unless such employee chooses to wear a medical grade mask or filtered mask, which such employee provides for themselves.
- 3. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the employer may allow employee-provided masks for one week following the issuance of this order or such time as it takes the employer to obtain a sufficient inventory of masks for provision to employees, whichever is sooner.

MASKS OR FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED FOR CUSTOMERS OF BUSINESSES PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SERVICE WITHIN THE TOWN OF SOUTHWICK

- 1. All customers of businesses providing essential services in the Town of Southwick are required to wear masks or other face coverings at all times while on the premises of the business.
- 2. Face coverings worn by customers in accordance with this Order shall be any cloth that securely covers the customer's nose and mouth, including but not limited to scarves, bandanas, or similar coverings.

Important Exclusions:

- Nothing in this order is intended to encourage residents to act as an enforcement authority for the Town of Southwick. Residents should not take it upon themselves to approach people in violation of this order. Residents are urged to focus solely on their personal compliance with this order.
- Nothing in this order shall be construed to require a mask to be worn by children under age two (2) or children who frequently compromise mask integrity with frequent manipulations or removals, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance or anyone who cannot wear a mask for other underlying health and safety reasons.
- Nothing in this order shall be construed to reduce or eliminate the requirement of maintaining safe distancing.

Effective Saturday, May 2, at 12:01 a.m. This Order will remain in effect until rescinded by the Board of Health.

Dr. Jerome Azia, Chairman

Tammy Spencer, Health Director

Sue Brzoska, Member

Jean Nilsson, Member