

## **Town of Southwick Board of Health and Select Board COVID-19 Update for May 8, 2020**

As of Friday, May 8, 2020, there have been 49 positive cases of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. The Southwick Board of Health would like to stress that this is not a complete profile of the status of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick. This number reflects those individuals who have received positive test results and *not* those awaiting results, untested symptomatic individuals, and those who might currently be asymptomatic. Additionally, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is posting cases by municipality. This information can be accessed at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring>.

Currently, a face covering order is in place for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This order states that all persons are required to wear masks or cloth face coverings at all times when inside grocery stores, pharmacies, and other retail stores. Additionally, the wearing of face coverings is required at any non-retail businesses providing essential services in which people are unable to maintain safe social distancing (six feet) in the Town of Southwick. Face coverings can include disposable masks, filtered masks, cloth masks, scarves, bandanas, or other coverings that can securely cover the nose and mouth. Low cost cloth face coverings can be fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials. Links to information on how to make a cloth mask at home are posted on the Coronavirus update page at [southwickma.org](https://southwickma.org).

Residents are urged to continue to follow all public health precautions for reducing the spread of COVID-19: stay home unless absolutely necessary; if you must go out in public, practicing social distancing and proper hygiene etiquette; and if you are experiencing signs of illness - fever, cough, shortness of breath – call your primary care provider for advice.

Town residents with a Transfer Station sticker may continue to bring brush at no cost to TJ Bark Mulch, at 25 Sam West Road. Hours of operation are Monday through Saturday, 8AM to 4PM. Bulky items requiring a separate permit will still not be accepted at the Transfer Station until further notice.

The Southwick Board of Health and Select Board continue to post case numbers and updated information regarding COVID-19 every Friday at [southwickma.org](https://southwickma.org). For additional up-to-date information please visit [mass.gov/2019coronavirus](https://mass.gov/2019coronavirus) and [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov). For non-emergency information and assistance, please call 2-1-1 or visit [mass211.org](https://mass211.org).