

## Town of Southwick Board of Health and Select Board COVID-19 Update for October 30, 2020

As of Friday, October 30, 2020, there have been 95 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. Additional information on case numbers can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-cases-quarantine-and-monitoring>.

With Halloween occurring this weekend, the Southwick Board of Health would like to remind residents that many traditional Halloween activities can be high-risk for spreading viruses. There are several safer, alternative ways to participate in Halloween. The following lower risk activities can be safe alternatives: carving or decorating pumpkins with members of your household; decorating your house or living space; having a Halloween scavenger hunt; having a virtual Halloween costume contest; and having a Halloween movie night with people you live with. If you may have COVID-19 or you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in in-person Halloween festivities and should not give out candy to trick-or-treaters. For more information on safe Halloween activities, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/news/halloween-during-covid-19>.

Due to the nature of the demand on Town Hall staff for the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Presidential Election, the Town Hall north side lobby will not be open to the public on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Services will continue to be available over the phone and online on that day. On all other days, the Town Hall north side lobby is open to the public for Town Clerk, Treasurer, Collector, and Assessors services. All other offices are available by phone, on-line, and by appointment. Due to the nature of our operations during the pandemic, please call these other offices before visiting Town Hall. All efforts have been made to ensure that customers and staff are kept safe. The Town of Southwick asks all visitors entering the building to abide by all posted signage.

All visitors and returning residents entering Massachusetts must follow the [new travel orders](#). All travelers arriving to Massachusetts – including Massachusetts residents returning home – are instructed to complete the [Massachusetts Travel Form](#) prior to arrival and to self-quarantine for 14 days, **except travelers from California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Vermont, and Washington**. All persons are instructed not to travel to Massachusetts if they are displaying symptoms of COVID-19. For more information, including the most current list of lower-risk states, exemptions, business guidance and other details, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-travel-order>.

Due to the recent increase in cases of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, 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; wear face coverings when inside retail stores and when social distancing cannot be maintained; and if you are experiencing signs of illness - fever, cough, shortness of breath – call your primary care provider for advice.

The Southwick Board of Health and Select Board continue to post case numbers and updated information regarding COVID-19 every week 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).