

The Town of Southwick is working closely with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to monitor the coronavirus situation. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses which can cause respiratory illness. Common symptoms in an infected person include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. Most people with the coronavirus disease will have mild illness and can get better with appropriate home care and without the need to see a provider. People who are elderly, pregnant, or have a weak immune system, or other medical problems, are at higher risk of more serious illness or complications.

All major departments within the Town of Southwick have been working with each other and with their State and Federal counterparts to keep informed of the ever changing status of events and to ensure that all decisions are made with the best available knowledge. Local information is being made available at [www.southwickma.org](http://www.southwickma.org), as well through the Town's alert system, Code Red. Please visit <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/BF33E17CD52A> to sign up to receive Code Red alerts.

Very simple, yet important, actions can be taken to stay healthy and safe. Covering your cough or sneeze, washing your hands thoroughly and often, limiting close contact with those who are sick, and staying home when you are sick are crucial to limiting the spread of this virus.

To stay up-to-date on the most current information on the virus, please visit [mass.gov/2019coronavirus](http://mass.gov/2019coronavirus) and [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov).