

Town of Southwick Board of Health and Select Board COVID-19 Press Release for March 27, 2020

As of Friday, March 27, 2020, there are 3 positive cases of COVID-19 in the Town of Southwick, as well as 3 persons in self quarantine. For daily updated information, visit [mass.gov/2019coronavirus](https://www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus). The Southwick Board of Health, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, is continuously monitoring the community for spread of the disease, as well as conducting contact tracing of those that may have been exposed to the virus. While the number of positive cases is currently low, there is an expectation that the number will rise.

In response to the rising number of cases throughout the Commonwealth, several orders and advisories have been put into place by Governor Charlie Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health:

- public and private schools have been closed until May 4
- gatherings of larger than 10 are no longer allowed
- food service establishments are limited to take-out and delivery only
- businesses that do not provide “COVID-19 Essential Services” must close their physical workplaces to employees and the public
- residents over the age of 70, those with underlying health conditions, and anyone who is not providing an essential service are advised to stay at home with the exception of essential activities

The Town of Southwick has currently suspended bulk item and brush drop-off at the Town Transfer Station until April 7, 2020 while the Department of Public Works and the Select Board formulate a new plan for disposing these items. Additional actions taken by the Town of Southwick include closing town buildings and playground structures to the public and offering grab-and-go meals for senior residents through the Southwick Council on Aging and for students through the Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District.

The Town of Southwick continues to urge residents to take the following precautions to halt the spread of the disease:

- stay home unless absolutely necessary
- when it is necessary to go out in public, practicing social distancing and proper hygiene etiquette, such as covering your cough or sneezes and washing your hands
- if you are experiencing signs of illness - fever, cough, shortness of breath – call your primary care provider for advice

For additional information, please visit [southwickma.org](https://www.southwickma.org) and [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov). For non-emergency information and assistance, please call 2-1-1 or visit [mass211.org](https://www.mass211.org).