COVID-19 Update – March 31, 2020

The stay at home advisory ordered by the State effective Tuesday, March 24, 2020 has been extended by Governor Baker to **Monday, May 4th**. All non-essential businesses must close or work remotely. Information on this order and details about what services are deemed essential and not subject to the order can be found at [https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19](https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19).

The Town of Norfolk will continue to provide essential public services to our community. The only change since the March 23, 2020 update is to reinstate “household recycling” at the Transfer Station effective Wednesday, April 1st:

**Transfer Station**

- Open on its regular schedule – Wednesday 9:30 AM – 5 PM, Saturday 8 AM – 4 PM
- Recycling of household items will be reinstated (paper, glass, plastic, aluminum/tin)
- Yard Waste will be accepted
- Bag stickers will be available for sale at the Transfer Station when they are open – Staff will sell strips of 10 stickers for $25.00 – checks only/NO cash.
- Bulk waste and electronic goods are not being accepted at this time (white goods, mattresses, bulk materials, clothing, books, e-waste, KP can collections)
- On line sales of transfer station stickers is being developed and will be available on the Town’s website soon

**March 23, 2020 Updates**

- **Board/Committee meetings** that cannot be cancelled will be held remotely using the Zoom on-line platform. Every agenda includes the information regarding how to access a meeting remotely, and further information about how to navigate this on-line platform is available on the Town’s website.
- **Town Buildings** – all buildings are closed to the public, but all of our staff is in place either at their office or remotely to take calls and maintain services. Many services can be accessed on line: Library services, various permits, taxes and bill payments.
- **The Council on Aging** staff are continuing to provide a variety of services.
Meals on Wheels is available to any senior (age 60+), please contact our provider HESCO at 781-784-4944
Residents who are at risk may apply for emergency meals, contact the COA for details
Food Pantry – Contact 508-528-5862, option 4 for assistance.
Medications – some pharmacies are offering free delivery or contact the COA to arrange a pickup.

- **Fire department** smoke detector inspections have been suspended for 90 days per an order of Governor Baker. Residential house closings may go forward without this certificate.

- **Recreation Commission:**
  - Pond Street Recreation complex is open only for use of the ¾ mile walking trail. The fields, pavilion, skate park and basketball courts are all closed.
  - The Town’s playgrounds are closed
  - The Tennis courts are open

- **Building Inspections** – are still being conducted. Please understand that in order to ensure your safety and that of our staff, you will be asked some questions regarding infectious diseases so that we can ascertain whether it is safe to enter your home.

- **Animal Control** will respond to calls where animals pose a public safety issue. Other services will include animal rescues, bats in houses & issues with transmittable diseases, protective custody of pets, cruelty/neglect investigations, assistance with lack of food. Lost pets and other such services will be curtailed.

**Town Department Phone Numbers:**

- Assessors 508-528-1120
- Conservation 508-541-8455
- Council on Aging 508-528-4430
- Public Works 508-528-4990
- Fire Dept (business line) 508-528-3207
- Board of Health 508-528-7747
- Library 508-528-3380
- Police Dept (business line) 508-528-3206
- Recreation Department 508-520-1315
- Town Administrator/Select Board 508-440-2855
- Town Clerk 508-528-1400
- Treasurer/Tax Collector 508-520-0058
- Veterans Services 508-528-8485

**Miscellaneous**

- GATRA’s regularly scheduled routes have been suspended but they are offering dial a ride service at no cost, please contact them at 800-698-7676
- Local volunteers have established a website detailing community effort to aid people in need for food and various services: [www.Feedourvillage.com](http://www.Feedourvillage.com)

**As a Reminder:**

- Take every day precautionary actions to avoid the spread of respiratory viruses like the flu and COVID-19, such as washing your hands frequently for 20 seconds with soap and warm water (or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available), avoiding people who are sick, avoiding touching your eyes, nose
or mouth, and covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue. People who are sick should stay home and not go into crowded public places or visit people in hospitals.

- Anyone who is experiencing a fever and/or respiratory illness and is concerned they have either come into contact with the virus or traveled to an affected country within the last 14 days is advised to contact their primary health care provider.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, clean them: Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Get the flu vaccine.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Think about your own personal preparedness for you and your family (https://www.mass.gov/know-plan-prepare).

For the most up-to-date public health information, please visit these websites:


Massachusetts 2-1-1 – Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.


The Town continues to monitor this situation very closely and will provide further updates on the town’s website and its Facebook page as new information becomes available:

Town Website – https://www.norfolk.ma.us
Town Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/norfolkma

For school news and updates:
Norfolk Public Schools Website – https://district.norfolk.k12.ma.us
King Philip Regional Schools – www.kingphilip.org

Thank you for your patience and efforts as we navigate this ever-changing situation. We appreciate your patience as we continue to monitor the situation. During this time, we recommend taking a few moments to review your notification options for Citizen Alerts at https://townofnorfolk bbcportal.com/ the Town’s official emergency notification system.