

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
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April 16, 2020 Update

At 4:00 yesterday the state issued a report that there were 17 confirmed cases in West Boylston. Yesterday morning what was reported to me was 9 cases. However, it was 9 addresses that had active cases. I spoke with our nurse who indicated that there may be multiple people in the household. The Fire Chief has verified the numbers at the addresses and I was able to get to the 17 case number. Below is the date the town was notified and the number of positives for that date. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused. The last case was reported on April 8, 2020.

[March 27, 2020 – 2 confirmed cases](#)

[March 30, 2020 – 8 confirmed cases](#)

[April 3, 2020 – 5 confirmed cases](#)

[April 8, 2020 – 2 confirmed cases](#)

The Board of Health continues to monitor essential businesses in town for compliance with capacity requirements and exit and entrance protocols.

The Police Chief reports that his department has been checking the area of the Rail Trail. There has not been any activity, no walkers observed, and no illegal parking.

With the West Boylston mile of the rail trail being temporarily closed, I have been notified by Colleen Abrams, President of Wachusett Greenways that they will begin their Phase 2 work plan, Thomas Street to I-190, to refresh the surface of the trail. You may recall that Phase 1, which concentrated on tree removal and drainage work, was completed last year.

The Fire Department is staffed 24/7 with plans to add staffing if the needs arise. Shifts and crews entering and leaving the living space are screened with a questionnaire and temperature taken. We have started adding an extra EMT on the overnight from home, to enhance coverage to assist with COVID-19 incidents, they serve as a runner for equipment, driver and safety officer. They have responded to several positive COVID-19 incidents, they have all gone smoothly and safely. Everything is being tracked for 75% reimbursement by FEMA.

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On a good note, over the weekend the Chief was asked by Mr. Robertson of Knoll Wood Nursing Home to bring a fire truck to the Nursing Home for a small parade. Upon arriving they were advised by the masked manager to take the front of the line to lead the parade around the building, and they had the pleasure of driving the masked Easter Bunny in our West Boylston truck. They were joined by the Shrewsbury Police Cruiser and family members with notes on their cars, and Worcester Engine 11. They proceeded up the road with residents sitting outside their front doors greeting them with big waves and masked faces. When they arrived at the Nursing Home the residents were masked and socially distanced in their wheel chairs around the driveway. Once the Easter Bunny was delivered the Chief took the truck to Angell Brook Village, Hillside Village and Oakdale.

The Congregational Church Food Pantry will become a drive thru operation beginning Tuesday, April 21st from 1-3 p.m. They are not accepting food donations at this time, however, they will accept gift cards or monetary donations.

In closing I would like to extend a special thank you to Holy Cross. They have offered the town one of their houses to use as a shelter for First Responders, Police, Fire and EMS to locate to in the event they test positive and need to be away from their families.