

New Slow the Spread Orders ~ November 9, 2020

Governor Baker issued new orders and advisories to slow the spread of COVID-19 in an attempt to keep the economy and schools open after a 278% increase in cases and a 145% increase in hospitalizations since Labor Day. Among those are 68 new cases in Franklin County during October, a one-month high. The following new orders and advisories went into effect on Friday, November 6, 2020:

**Face coverings required in public at all times** (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-order-55/download>).

* Residents over the age of 5 years are required to wear a mask or face covering over their nose and mouth **in any public place, whether indoors or outdoors**.
* Violations may result in a civil fine of up to $300 per violation.

**Stay-At-Home advisory extended to specific hours** (<https://www.mass.gov/stayhome>).

* In order to comply with this advisory, all residents must **stay home between 10 PM and 5 AM**.
  + Residents may **only** leave home to go to work or school, or for essential needs such as seeking medical care, or getting groceries or medical supplies during these hours.
  + Residents must **not** have gatherings in their home with anybody from outside of their household **from 10 PM – 5 AM**. (*Please see further restrictions below.)*

**Gatherings at private residences restricted** (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-order-54/download>).

* Indoorgatherings are limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings are limited to 25 people at private residences.
  + All gatherings **must** **end and disperse** by 9:30 PM.
  + Organizers of gatherings must report known positive COVID-19 cases to the local health department and cooperate with contact tracing.
  + Fines for violating the gathering order will be $500 for each person above the limit at a particular gathering.

**Hours for certain businesses restricted** (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-order-53/download>).

* Restaurants and entertainments venues must close to the public each day between the hours of 9:30 PM and 5:00 AM.
* Sales and service of alcohol are also restricted after 9:30 PM.

*If you or someone you know has a concern or need regarding these new orders and advisories, call****2-1-1.***

*If you or someone you know does not feel safe at home, call 1-800-799-7233 for live support.  If you are unable to speak safely, log onto thehotline.org to chat online, or text LOVEIS to 22522.*