



Town of

# Longmeadow, Massachusetts

20 Williams Street, Longmeadow, MA 01106



## **Town of Longmeadow Update First Confirmed Case of COVID-19 Coronavirus March 25, 2020**

The Town of Longmeadow confirmed today that there is one positive case of COVID-19 in the community.

The person is in isolation at home, and will remain in contact with the Longmeadow Board of Health during their illness. Longmeadow Health Department officials were notified today by the state Department of Public Health (DPH) of the positive test for COVID-19.

“We are monitoring this case very closely, in accordance with all Department of Public Health guidelines,” Town Manager Lyn N. Simmons said. “We will continue to keep the residents of Longmeadow updated as more information relating to the COVID-19 public health crisis is available.”

Longmeadow health officials are conducting additional contact tracing of the individual. Close contacts (defined as someone who has spent more than 15 minutes within six feet of a positive case) if any, will be identified, contacted by health officials, and may be ordered to quarantine. No further information on the individual will be shared as individual health information is protected under HIPPA.

Town officials are urging residents to stay at home and asking for the public’s help in flattening the curve by following social distancing measures, if you do need to leave their house. Don’t hang out in groups, stay 6 feet apart from one another, don’t hug or shake hands, and don’t share food or drinks. The best thing you can do is stay home and wash your hands. It is vitally important for residents to stop congregating outside, stop group play and team sports at parks and to take critical public safety messages seriously.

Town officials have been preparing for COVID-19 coronavirus to reach the community for several weeks. In late February a multi-disciplinary task force was established, comprised of representatives from all departments and the Longmeadow Public Schools has been meeting for several weeks to proactively plan for and prepare for the impact of novel coronavirus in our community.

Longmeadow has taken the following steps to slow the spread in our community:

1. Longmeadow Public Schools are closed through May 4, 2020.
2. All municipal buildings are closed to the public, including Storrs Library.
3. Greenwood Daycare Center is closed.
4. The transfer station is closed.
5. The Meals on Wheels program and the Food Pantry are still operating. If you would like to speak with someone about the program, including signing up or volunteering please email [ekoebler@longmeadow.org](mailto:ekoebler@longmeadow.org) or call (413) 565-4150, the Food Pantry will no longer have public hours, all pickups will be pre-arranged.
6. Parks and Recreation programs are cancelled. If you have questions on specific programs email [customerservice@lprd.net](mailto:customerservice@lprd.net) or call (413) 565-4160.

7. A Virtual Town Hall webpage has been created to provide access to departments and services via phone, email and website. Visit [www.longmeadow.org/virtualtownhall](http://www.longmeadow.org/virtualtownhall) for information.
8. Longmeadow Fire has a dedicated ambulance to handle suspected calls on possible COVID-19 cases.
9. Town Boards and Committees will not hold meetings unless essential items need to be handled. If a meeting needs to be held it will be done remotely.
10. Construction is continuing on the new DPW and Adult Center buildings.
11. Consideration is being given to postponing Town Meeting to a date in June.
12. The Emergency Management Team is developing a neighbor to neighbor plan with social services, Churches, charter schools and other agencies. A similar group is being developed with resources for the private sector and businesses.
13. Guidance is being developed on social distancing to be distributed to faith based groups.

The Town of Longmeadow is working hard to protect the health and safety of its residents. Please email [lemd@longmeadow.org](mailto:lemd@longmeadow.org) or visit [www.longmeadow.org/coronavirus](http://www.longmeadow.org/coronavirus) for more information.