



## TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

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Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545-5398

### PUBLIC NOTICE [issued March 13, 2020]

As concerns rise over the Coronavirus (COVID-19), town officials would like to take this opportunity to provide Shrewsbury residents, town employees, businesses and the general public with an update on some of the measures that have been taken to date in regards to COVID-19.

Information about the coronavirus is evolving, and the situation remains dynamic. The Town of Shrewsbury continues to be in contact with state officials, emergency management teams and board of health representatives to discuss plans daily and would like to share the following information:

#### **Are there any cases of COVID-19 in Shrewsbury?**

As of March 13, 2020, at 3:00PM, there are no positive cases of COVID-19 for residents of Shrewsbury.

#### **Are the Town Hall and other Town Buildings open?**

- The Senior Center and Library are open to the public, but with no programs.
- The Town Hall will remain open and employees shall report to work as normal. Effective immediately we strongly recommend and encourage that as much town business as can be conducted through the Internet, e-mail and over the phone to minimize the number of people in the Town Hall. A drop box in front of the Town Hall is available for your use in paying bills or delivering mail. No cash is accepted at this box. This requirement will be revisited in the next few days and revised as necessary.

#### **Will school be canceled?**

Our schools were closed on Friday, March 13, 2020. However, we are in constant contact with the School Superintendent, Public Health Nurse, Board of Health, Public Safety officials, DPH/state officials, and the CDC to monitor the situation. If further school closing decisions are to be made, you will hear this directly from the Office of the School Superintendent, as well as normal media outlets.

#### **Are all events canceled?**

As of today, Friday, March 13, 2020, the following protocols are immediately effective:

- All public programs have been canceled for the foreseeable future by the following departments:
  - Shrewsbury Library
  - Recreation Department – Spring Programs
  - Senior Center/Council on Aging

Each department will reach out individually if refunds are necessary.

- Town employee attendance at conferences/seminars will be severely restricted. Staff members will need permission from the Town Manager to attend any out of the building work-related events;
- Use of town facilities by any outside groups have been discontinued, unless permission has been granted by the Town Manager;
  - The only exception to this is board/committee meetings that are required for the continuance of town governance [i.e. Board of Selectmen, Board of Health]
  - Use of the Fire Station meetings room has been discontinued until further notice;
- All large events and forums should be discontinued at this time in an effort to protect the public, colleagues and town employees;
- We ask that all boards and committees hold public meetings only if necessary and use the allowed open meeting law provisions that were put into place on March 12, 2020.

### **Where can I find more information?**

The official source of information from the Town of Shrewsbury is the Town website

[<https://www.shrewsburyma.gov>] and Town Twitter account [[@ShrewsburyMAGov](#)]

Go to <https://shrewsburyma.gov/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#newsFlash> to sign up for E-alerts through the Town website.

Go to <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/en-US/00BD6AD08E67> to register for CodeRed through the Town website

**The Board of Health page can be found at:** <https://shrewsburyma.gov/188/Board-of-Health>

- [CDC COVID 19 Information](#)
- **COVID 19 Fact Sheet** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>
- **COVID 19 FAQ'S** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>
- [CDC Guidance on Stigma and Resilience](#)
- [World Health Organization COVID 19 Information](#)
- [Massachusetts Department of Public Health's New Coronavirus Website](#)
- [Talking to Children About Covid-19--National Association of School Psychologists](#)

*We will continue to monitor this situation closely and provide ongoing updates on the town website and on social media outlets.*