

TOWN OF BOURNE BOARD OF HEALTH

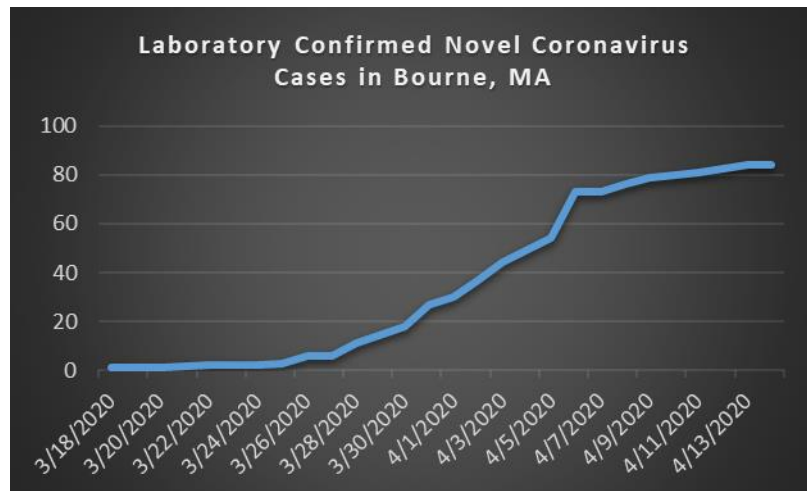
24 Perry Avenue
Buzzards Bay, MA 02532



April 14, 2020

It has been over a month since Governor Baker declared a state of emergency in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to respond to the spread of COVID-19. Public Health Officials predict that the COVID-19 outbreak will peak in the upcoming week and we expect to see an increase in community spread.

The Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiologic Network (MAVEN) is the electronic disease surveillance system which provides us with a framework for public health surveillance and the information which is presented to you in the graph below. Utilizing this data guides public health policy and strategy to develop and implement disease prevention and control measures specific to the community. Based on what we know now, the public health risk is the same absent of specific case counts being reported locally.



As of April 13th, there are 502 cases within Barnstable County being reported by the State Dept. of Public Health, and a total of 84 cases in the Town of Bourne. Our community will benefit from your decision to take precautions.

Here's how you can help slow the rate of infection and flatten the curve to give our healthcare system the time and resources to treat more people:

- Stay Home
- Practice Social Distancing
- Take Health Precautions
- Cover your Face

Only leave home for *essential errands* such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy. You can still go outside and get fresh air, but *do not participate in close contact activities*. When you do leave home, practice social distancing by staying 6 feet away from others. Parents should not be scheduling play dates.

Wash your hands frequently, avoid touching your face, clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces, cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, and follow the advisory regarding face coverings and cloth masks.

Visit mass.gov/COVID19 for the most up to date information or call Mass 2-1-1.