

Board of Health
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EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH AND SELECT BOARD REGARDING FACE COVERINGS

Whereas, on March 18, 2020, the Winchester Board of Health issued a declaration of a Public Health Emergency in the Town of Winchester in response to coronavirus/COVID-19, a highly contagious and potentially fatal respiratory disease; and,

Whereas, on March 23, 2020, the Winchester Select Board announced that a local state of emergency exists in the Town of Winchester; and,

Whereas, the Select Board and Board of Health for the Town of Winchester have determined that additional and immediate public action is needed in order to minimize further spread of COVID-19, by and among the people of and in the Town of Winchester;

Now therefore, in order to lessen the spread of coronavirus/COVID-19 and to minimize its further impact on members of the community, it is hereby ordered, by the Select Board and the Board of Health of the Town of Winchester, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 122, effective Friday, May 1, 2020 at 12:01am:

***NOTE:** Face Coverings are not to be put on children under 2 yrs or those with trouble breathing. See CDC guidance for more information.

1. **All members of the public entering any essential business** as defined by Governor Baker's COVID-19 Executive Orders, including, but not limited to, grocery and convenience stores, pharmacies, hardware stores, banks, government agencies, liquor/beer/wine stores, and the like, **must wear a facial covering, such as a fabric mask, scarf or bandana**, over their nose and mouth in accordance with CDC guidance. The facial covering does not have to be a surgical mask or N-95 respirator/mask, which should be left for medical professionals and first responders. See this link for information on making a cloth facial covering:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>.
2. **All members of the public entering a restaurant** for the purpose of picking up food for take-out **must wear a facial covering** over their nose and mouth.
3. **All employees of all essential businesses open to the public shall wear a facial covering over their mouth and nose.** Employers and employees must also comply with all applicable CDC and DPH protocols and guidelines for their particular business, which may include recommendations and/or directives concerning the use of personal protective equipment, such as gloves. *Essential businesses open to the public shall use discretion for occupational health hazards regarding the use of facial coverings (i.e. cooks over grills, employees using machinery, etc.) and exercise best professional judgment on use of facial coverings or not during such occupational operations.*

4. **Food/Goods delivery personnel** shall wear facial coverings over their nose and mouth when delivering the food/goods to the customer if there is a person-to-person exchange. Employees are required to comply with this requirement not contingent upon the ability of their employer to supply facial coverings.
5. **Any resident or member of the general public, including workforce, entering or exiting a residential or commercial building complex** of greater than one (1) unit must wear a facial covering over their nose and mouth while in common areas and communal spaces. Must exercise social distancing in these spaces in accordance with CDC guidelines. See these guidelines at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>
6. All **persons are required to properly dispose of all gloves, facial coverings** and other personal protection equipment or other potentially virus-contaminated items in appropriate disposal bins. Penalties for failure to properly dispose of these materials will be in accordance with state and local law.
7. All members of the public engaging in trash, recycling, etc. activities at the **Transfer Station must wear a facial covering over their nose and mouth.**
8. Each applicable essential business **shall post signage** at public and employee entrances requiring facial coverings and social and physical distancing of six feet from one another. Attached is a template example.
9. Face coverings shall be worn in accordance with CDC guidance, with particular attention given to age and medical restrictions.

This Emergency Order shall be effective beginning MAY 1, 2020 AT 12:01 A.M. and remain in effect until notice is given pursuant to a determination by the Winchester Board of Health and consultation with state and national guidance that the Public Health Emergency no longer exists.

To the extent necessary, this Order shall be enforced by Board of Health officials and Winchester Police Officers.

The Winchester Board of Health and Select Board order authorizes the Director of Public Health to further enhance physical and distancing procedures or requirements upon discretion.

Kerry Bartlett, Chair
Winchester Board of Health

Michael Bettencourt, Chair
Winchester Select Board

April 30, 2020