

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) NOTICE

A novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is leading to respiratory disease and affecting those in certain provinces in China. The CDC, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and other government agencies are monitoring the situation. Currently the risk to residents in Massachusetts is **low**.

- You are advised to contact the Bedford BOH at (781) 275-6507 if you have traveled to China, Iran, Italy, Japan or South Korea within the past 21 days. If you have recently traveled to China, Iran, Italy, Japan or South Korea AND are experiencing lower respiratory illness symptoms such as, but not limited to fever, cough, shortness of breath you are advised to contact your health care provider. Please note that while the incidence of COVID-2019 is rising in other countries, contact with the BOH is warranted only if there is a very high degree of suspicion of contact or exposure with someone with COVID-2019 from those affected countries.
- As of March 4, 2020, there has been two confirmed cases in Massachusetts. (Boston and Norfolk County)
- Please check the CDC's frequently update webpage for more information by [clicking here](#).
- Please check the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's webpage for more information by [clicking here](#)
- Please be advised that the Bedford Board of Health is using current CDC recommendations to conduct risk assessment and public health management of persons with potential 2019 Novel Coronavirus. These recommendations can be found by [clicking here](#). Please note that this is a reference tool only and that definitive answers to manage potential cases are made by the Bedford Board of Health.
- Please see the links below for fact sheets regarding the Coronavirus:
 - For English; [click here](#).
 - For Traditional Chinese; [click here](#).
 - For Simplified Chinese; [click here](#).
 - For additional languages, [click here](#).

Please note that the influenza infections is high in Massachusetts. It is not too late to get a flu shot. Call the Bedford Board of Health at (781)275-6507 to sign up for appointment. Please practice the following infection prevention activities:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Frequently clean touch common touchpoint surfaces, including but not limited to electronics, door knobs, and countertops;
- Avoid sharing food utensils, containers, and other personal items;
- Distance yourself from someone who appears sick;
- [Practice proper cough etiquette](#).