

# **COVID-19 Weekly Update**

## Status Update

This week one new case was reported bringing the total COVID-19 positive case count to 79. For more detailed state reporting of cases, <u>click here</u>.

#### Where is the vaccine?

Vaccines for new diseases often take years, since there are many steps to ensure that a vaccine is both safe AND effective. There are over 165 vaccine development projects worldwide, and most are in the small trial phase (with a handful of participants). These trials won't move to a larger scale until they determine the appropriate vaccine dosage (the focus of the smaller trials). Rushing to large trials too quickly can result in a vaccine that is either useless or harmful or both. <u>Vaccine development</u> can be sped up using new technology, but it still must go through careful testing for safety and effectiveness. The New York Times created an up-to-date <u>tracking tool</u> focusing on vaccine development if you are interested in following along. This is a real test for our country, and indeed for the whole of humanity, in being resilient in the face of uncertainty. Stay safe and sane, wear your mask, and be kind to yourself and each other.

#### Handling the Heat Wave

As the summer continues to heat up, a cooling center has been set up at the Uxbridge Senior Center for the public (you will need to wear a mask). If you have any questions you can contact senior center staff at (508) 278-8622. Pets are also susceptible to heat related illness and should not be left in overheated homes or outside. Make sure to provide your pets with plenty of fresh water and learn to recognize the signs of heat stroke in your pet. For more information on pet safety in hot weather, click <u>here</u>. Stay cool, Uxbridge!.

#### Don't forget to complete the Open Space Survey

The Town of Uxbridge is updating its Open Space & Recreation Plan. Please take a brief <u>survey</u> to share your opinion on current parks and trails and let us know where you think the town should focus efforts and funding.

### Watch out for Mosquitos!

Protect yourself from mosquitos by using bug repellent, staying inside from dawn to dusk, and wearing long clothing. Check out this great to tool to find the best repellent for you (including DEET-free options) by <u>clicking here</u>. Learn more about mosquito-borne diseases at the Board of Health's mosquito page found <u>here</u>.

**About this Publication:** The COVID-19 Weekly Update is produced by the Uxbridge Board of Health with the help of volunteers from the <u>Academic</u> <u>Public Health Volunteer Corps</u>. The Weekly Update provides residents relevant and timely updates about the COVID-19 situation, other public health topics and related news from the community. It is published every Thursday, and is accurate up to the time of publication.

#### July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 The Week in Numbers:

Total reported COVID-19 cases in Uxbridge Residents	79
# of <b>inactive</b> COVID- 19 cases in Uxbridge	77
Meals Provided by Food Pantry in June	141

#### Helpful Links:

- Uxbridge COVID-19
  Webpage
- <u>Uxbridge Support</u>
  <u>Services</u>
- Massachusetts DPH
- <u>CDC COVID-19 Info</u>
- <u>Report Workplace</u>
  <u>Violations</u>
- <u>Mosquito-Borne</u>
  <u>Diseases</u>

For EEE Updates, sign up for <u>CodeRED</u> and other town alerts through <u>E- Alerts</u>.

#### **Questions?**

If you cannot find the answer online, contact the Board of Health at: 508-278-8600 ext. 8 boh@uxbridge-ma.gov