

COVID-19 Weekly Update

Status Update

October 1st, 2020

Important Dates:

October 5th: National Do Something Nice Day ☺

October 14th: Flu Clinic @ Uxbridge High School

Remember to Get Your Flu Vaccine!

Click [here](#) to pre-register for the Uxbridge Flu Clinic. More information on other locations to get a flu shot (including CVS and the Tri-River clinic) available [in our update from last week](#).

The Week in Numbers:

New COVID-19 cases since last Thursday	7
Total number of COVID-19 cases* for Uxbridge residents	101
Number of active cases (individuals still in isolation)	10

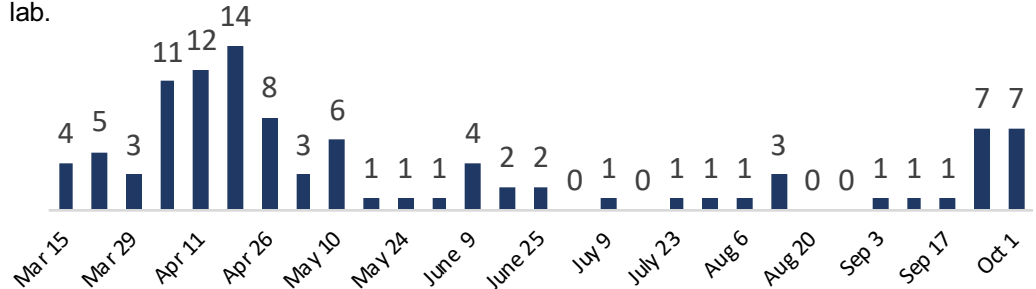
*confirmed by [PCR testing](#)

COVID Complaints

New DLS complaint form available [online](#)

COVID-19 in Uxbridge

In the last week, 7 new cases were reported bringing the total count of COVID-19 cases in Uxbridge to 101. There are currently 10 active cases stemming from 8 unique addresses in town. With the increase in cases over the last two weeks, Uxbridge was moved into the yellow category on the [COVID-19 Weekly Public Health Report](#) (released Wednesdays) and the [COVID-19 Community Map](#) for having greater than 5 cases over a 14-day period. The graph below shows the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Uxbridge, by week, since March 15th, 2020. These are only cases confirmed by PCR testing at an approved lab.



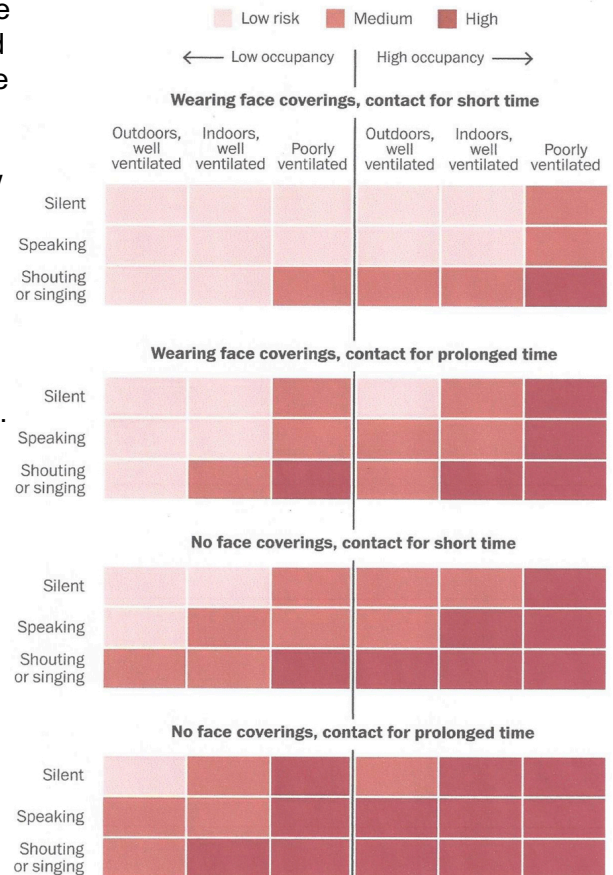
Breaking Down Transmission Risk

It has been over 7 months since the COVID-19 pandemic first appeared in the U.S. and in that time we have learned a lot. A recent [Elemental piece on COVID-19 transmission risk](#) nicely explained what we know about COVID-19.

The three primary pathways of COVID-19 transmission are close range droplets (e.g. from a cough or sneeze), contaminated surfaces, and [aerosol transmission](#).

The best ways to protect yourself from COVID-19 are to wear masks, socialize outdoors whenever possible, and if you must gather indoors make sure you are in a well-ventilated area with a small number of people. We know this information is not new for many of you, but it is important to remember.

Stay vigilant. Stay safe.
(Image originates from the [Washington post](#))



About this Publication: The COVID-19 Weekly Update is produced by the Uxbridge Board of Health with the help of volunteers from the [Academic Public Health Volunteer Corps](#). 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.

New Resource

The new website [Mass.gov/StopCOVID19](https://www.mass.gov/StopCOVID19) provides residents and local business owners with information on how to stop the spread, state restrictions on gathering sizes, testing locations and materials that can be printed for display in apartment complexes, restaurants and community areas.

EEE Winding Down

As the weather gets colder, EEE and other vector-borne diseases will start to wind down. To see the state's mosquito sampling results, [click here](#). To learn more about mosquito borne illnesses, visit the [Uxbridge BOH Mosquito borne diseases webpage](#).

Helpful Links

- [Uxbridge COVID-19 Webpage](#)
- [Uxbridge Support Services](#)
- [Massachusetts DPH](#)
- [Mass.gov/StopCOVID19](https://www.mass.gov/StopCOVID19)
- [CDC COVID-19 Info](#)
- [Report Workplace Violations](#)



Questions?

Contact the Board of Health at:
508-278-8600 ext. 8
boh@uxbridge-ma.gov

Fall Annual Town Meeting Update

On Monday September 28th, the Select Board determined that the FATM would be held at the Valley Chapel on October 27th at 7PM. (Thank you, Valley Chapel, for your generosity!) Spring Town Meeting precautions will be followed: masks and staying 6 feet apart from anyone not living in your home at all times will be required. Ventilation and disinfection of the Chapel will be maximized. Hand sanitizer will be provided. The duration of the meeting and time allowed for presentation and debate will be limited to minimize the amount of time of potential exposure.

In addition, the Board of Health made three recommendations to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

Marking seats so that there is no question that residents are 6 feet apart. This means that if someone at FATM tests positive for the virus, other attendees cannot be close contacts (defined as being within 6 feet of a person who tests positive for >15 minutes)

Accommodations so that those at high risk of serious COVID-19 can attend and participate in FATM outside of the Chapel, such as in the parking lot in individual cars.

Screening of all attendees before registration so that anyone who has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 does not attend.

The details of how these recommendations might be implemented are being worked on with the Town Manager, Town Clerk and Moderator. Please pay attention to the Town website for further information.

Also, there has been an increase in cases in Town over the past two weeks. (see previous article). This increase was anticipated due to school and business re-openings and more time spent inside with cooler weather. The Board of Health will be monitoring this carefully and further recommendations may be forthcoming.

Uxbridge continues to do well with mitigating the spread of COVID-19, so please continue to wear a mask, wash your hands, etc. And always be kind to yourself and each other.

New Release Schedule for the Updates

As we head in to the fall, this newsletter will be switching to a bi-monthly release schedule. The update will now be released every other Friday at noon. Weekly information on COVID-19 numbers are available in the [weekly reports published by the state](#). The next release of this newsletter will be on October 16th, 2020

Staffing Changes

It is with deep sadness and gratitude that we say goodbye to our incredible Health Director Kristin Black. Kristin has been an integral part of the Uxbridge Board of Health and we wish her well as she embarks on a new journey. Thank you for everything, Kristin!

As we say goodbye to Kristin, we welcome Jamie Terry as our new Interim Health Director. Congratulations also to Diane Legere, whose title was recently revised to Health Inspector and her duties expanded. Excited to see what we will be able to achieve together!