

Covid 19 Update  
May 26, 2020

Yesterday was Memorial Day, a timely reminder that many people have sacrificed a lot more and for a lot longer than we are being asked to do these days.

There is a Board of Selectmen meeting tonight. The agenda with instructions on how to participate remotely is on the Town website.

The Town Election is on June 13. The polls will be open from 9:00 am to 2 pm at the High School. However, we are encouraging people to vote by mail. Instructions are on the Town Clerk's page on the Town website. The Town clerk also made a video explaining the process. It is on Scituate Community Television [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Covid Numbers (since last Thursday)  
3 antibody cases  
3 new cases at Life Care Center  
6 new cases at new addresses

Questions have been asked about the numbers we are reporting vs the state numbers. The Town has been reporting Scituate cases since the beginning. The State takes our numbers and adds the Scituate nursing home numbers. The result is the state's number. There may be a slight difference due to reporting dates but it is insignificant. It is worth noting that there are 55 positive cases at Life Care and they continue to test, including their employees. Cardigan has 4 or five cases.

Phase 1 of the Reopening continues. Hair salons, barbers, are open with restrictions. Retail can open for curbside pick up.

Scituate beaches have never closed. Parking lots were full last Friday. People were trying to social distance and we appreciate their efforts. Rules are posted on the Town website as well as at the beaches. No organized games, blankets should be 12 feet apart to accommodate walking, no congregating. Unfortunately, groups of high school and college kids are ignoring the rules. This pandemic is not over, so please social distance, wash your hands and wear a mask. If we all do these things it will make a difference.

Athletic fields are open. Rules are posted at the fields and on the Town website. No sharing of equipment, no organized pick up games and no organized team practices.

The High School Athletic complex is strictly off limits. This is NOT due to Covid. The High School fields are still under construction and therefore, under the control of the contractor, not the Town. Please stay away.

The Dog Park will reopen this afternoon. There will be no water service due to shared dish. Since the Park is fenced, it is a confined area and masks are required. As with the beaches and the athletic fields, people need to police themselves. The Town doesn't want to waste resources enforcing rules. The alternative would be to close things down or restrict parking, which we don't want to do.

On an unrelated issue, next week the Transfer Station will require patrons to separate cardboard from paper. This will improve the quality of our waste stream, making it more valuable.

Property taxes are due June 1. We have already collected 96 to 97% of taxes. If you have a problem paying, please contact the Treasurer/Collector's Office and they will work with you on a plan.

You will soon be seeing "Scituate Loves Local" signs around Town. This is a campaign to support local businesses. If you have the means, please consider buying gift cards. This will help businesses' cash flow and you can use the cards at a later time.

The Quarantine is getting old and people are losing patience but please don't give up! We don't want to rebound and have to start all over.

Be well.