

Dear Goshen Resident,

On the Code Red message which was sent to all residents recently, (please see the Code Red message below) the Goshen Board of Health shared the steps we are taking in order to assure the health of our community and to assist those who may be impacted by the COVID19 virus. Either a public health nurse or member of the Board of Health should contact every case identified to us by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health so that we can provide helpful information and resources and assist in contact tracing. However, we would appreciate any assistance you can offer in identifying cases that may not have been reported to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health by a healthcare provider or testing facility. If you have been diagnosed by a healthcare provider or by testing as being positive for the COVID19 virus and have not been contacted by a public health official, please contact the Goshen Board of Health at the link below so that we can follow up. Please include your name, address and phone number.

Additionally, we are hoping to create a list of volunteers who may be able to provide assistance to those who have been impacted by COVID19 . This may include picking up groceries or prescriptions for a high risk individual who has been advised to remain at home due to pre-existing medical conditions. You will NOT be expected to be in contact with an isolated or quarantined person. If you are interested in helping others in this way, please contact the Board of Health via the link below and include your contact information and what services you may be willing to provide.

Thanks so much for your help. Stay safe!

Michael Kurland, MSPH, FACHE

Chair, Goshen Board of Health

**TEXT OF THE CODE RED MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH -  
transmitted April 16, 2020**

This is Michael Kurland, chair of the Board of Health with an update about COVID-19 preparedness in Goshen.

The Select Board has assembled a COVID-19 response team, led by the Board of Health in coordination with our emergency management director and other public safety departments. We have been communicating regularly since March 14<sup>th</sup> to develop protocols and procedures to assist and protect residents and put all necessary measures in place. We are working closely with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and regional public health agencies to procure additional supplies.

As of today, Goshen has fewer than 5 confirmed cases. If anyone has been exposed you will be contacted by a public health nurse or Board of Health member.

Please follow all guidelines and directives issued by the Governor. For example, the Governor has prohibited all short term housing rentals except to first responder agencies. Those with property rentals have been notified and we will be enforcing that directive.

If you are in need of assistance, are able to volunteer to help those who may be in quarantine or isolation, or wish to provide information that can assist in our town's disease surveillance and maintaining an accurate count of cases, please contact the Board of Health, as described on the Board of Health page on the Goshen website. Please check the Goshen website alerts webpage for updated links and state directives. I

Finally, please stay home. Wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer. If you must go out, wear a protective face mask and gloves and please practice social distancing. Your commitment towards social distancing is currently our most effective tool.

Stay safe and healthy!