



TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD

Board of Health

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MARBLEHEAD CASE REPORTING

Case Count

Confirmed cases (recent guidance categorizes all confirmed or presumptive positive cases as positive): **13**

Confirmed deaths: **0**

The Marblehead Health Department will make weekly updates of confirmed cases, March 30, 2020.

Marblehead Health Department (MHD) data regarding case counts come directly from Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) and their surveillance system (MAVEN). We use the language and terminology per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, and *recent guidance categorizes all confirmed or presumptive positive cases as positive*.

MHD understands that case counts may be higher, due to a number of factors:

1. Testing capabilities have been increased by other area lab organizations and hospitals and not all of the test results are reported to MDPH or MHD; and
2. People may be asymptomatic (or have very mild symptoms) and do not realize that they may have COVID-19 and need to be tested; and
3. Providers may be offering diagnoses based on symptoms and history (rather than testing) and telling patients that they are likely positive and should stay home and self-quarantine for 14 days. (*e.g. Someone might call their provider with a few symptoms and indicate that they were with someone from Biogen. In this case, the doctor may assume positive for COVID-19 and ask the patient to self-isolate at home for two weeks*).

This is the process that the MHD, and all local health departments, is following.

Please help prevent the spread of COVID-19 through Social Distancing and Staying at Home

- Only leave your home to address essential needs, get some fresh air and exercise, and if you do, avoid unnecessary contact with other individuals.
- You can still go outside to get fresh air, however, you must practice social distancing while outside and avoid touching surfaces frequently touched by others.
- You are encouraged to use remote modes of communication such as telephone or video chat (e.g. Facetime, Skype, Facebook Messenger Video Chat) instead of visiting friends or family. This is especially true for a hospital, nursing home, skilled nursing facility, or other residential care setting.
- Beginning March 27, all travelers arriving to Massachusetts are instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days