



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): **117**

Active cases: **76**

Confirmed deaths: **1**

Total of individuals who have completed monitoring (no longer in isolation): **41**

The Marblehead Health Department will make weekly updates of confirmed cases, April 27, 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.

The Marblehead Health Department has been made aware that the two nursing homes in the town have reported clusters of positive COVID-19 diagnoses. The nursing homes have implemented protective protocols, notified residents, staff members and families while continuing to work with public health officials. We will continue to work with both the MA Department of Public Health and the nursing homes making sure they are following state and CDC guidelines. Protecting the health and well-being of the Town's nursing home residents and employees remains one of our top priorities.

Please help prevent the spread of COVID-19 through Social Distancing, Staying at Home and wearing a facial covering.

- **Only** leave your home to address essential needs, get some fresh air and exercise, and if you do, avoid unnecessary contact with other individuals and **Wear a FACE Covering per CDC guidelines and Order of Board of Health**
- Beginning March 27, all travelers arriving to Massachusetts are instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days