

Overall Status: Significant Risk

Plan/Operation Name: COVID-19 Response

Daily Update for: 23 March 2020 (changes noted in blue text, links in red text) Status Code Legend:

Low Risk: Normal operations; limited risk

- Significant Risk: Limited functionality; emergency activation; local incidents
- Medium Risk: Degraded operations; heighten awareness; area incidents
- High Risk: Ceased operations; full activation; measurable local impact

Current News / Situation

Templeton is in a state of emergency (16 MAR 2020); the town is continually planning and operating to provide prevention practices as well as maintain a safe and healthy public. On March 23, Governor Baker issued an emergency order ordering nonessential businesses and organizations to close their physical workspaces and facilities to customers, workers and the public: Order | Essential Services List. Due to evolving spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts, Governor Baker has directed the Department of Public Health to issue a stay at home advisory outlining self-isolation and social distancing protocols. Residents are advised to stay home and avoid unnecessary travel and other unnecessary activities during this two-week time period. Residents over 70 years of age or with underlying health conditions, who are considered at high risk when exposed to COVID-19, should limit social interactions with other people as much as possible.

COVID-19 symptoms of this infection may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include: Fever, Cough, and shortness of breath, and in severe cases, pneumonia (fluid in the lungs). Call your healthcare professional if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19.

National Cases: 15,219 MA State Cases: 525 Worcester County Cases: 24 Templeton Cases: 2

Issues:

- Templeton Fire/EMS/police had announced shortages of n95 masks/PPE; Emerg Mgnt working issue.
- Childcare facility closures go into effect today, 22 March through at least 6 April (MA GOV directive)
- Town Meeting and Elections are part of the admin priorities to determine actions post May 31st

Town Offices and Partner Status:

- Town Hall: minimally manned by staff; closed for public access until 6 April; use the website for transactions or call; Open Meeting Law has been temporarily amended by the state; budget meeting postponed until 28 March; next BoS meeting 23 MAR 20 (teleconference & YouTube)
- NRSD Facilities: closed for school session, limited manning; providing staff support from central office; providing student meals using 'drive up/drive thru' method; Central Office #(978) 939-5661; on-line classroom learning in use
- Senior Center/COA: closed; minimally manned;
- Library: closed
- Food Pantry: open with specific instructions; stocking levels are adequate for current demand
- Emergency Services: vestibules only; open and ready; special safety precautions are being observed; sign up for CodeRed: text "templetonma" to 99411 (only ~1200 currently signed up); Emergency Operation Center (EOC) is operational, minimal staff.
- DPW: full operations; office closed to public; assisting with sanitization efforts; 1-person in cab ops
- TMLWP/Sewer: full operations; office closed to public

Specialized Resources

- Board of Health; manned and operational
- 2-1-1 call center; phone service has long wait times; recommend using chat or local resources
- Resource tracker engaged in order to preserve town expenditures available for reimbursement

Citizen Resources

- Offers of Assistance; we have started to get calls for volunteering; at this time, we have not needed
 or used volunteers, but we have developed a system to record those wishing to help
- Social media; updates are being pushed, please be aware of mis-information and unsubstantiated claims; overall, social media remains as one of the methods to stay connected and informed

Contact / Information

Board of Health (978) 894-2770 Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen (978) 894-2755

Town Website: www.templetonma.gov MA DPH: www.templetonma.gov MA DPH: www.templeton/www.templet

THE TOWN OF TEMPLETON 1