



**TOWN OF TEMPLETON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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TO ALL TEMPLETON RESIDENTS:

By now you have heard about the virus COVID-19, also known as the “Coronavirus.” It has dominated the news, spread throughout the globe, sickened thousands, and has even caused about two dozen deaths across the United States. At this time, even though Governor Baker has declared a state of emergency, our State and Town Health Department continues to rate this hazard as LOW RISK. The emergency was declared to secure Federal funding in order to continue the rapid response and resources to combat the spread of the virus. The LOW RISK is based on the low numbers, the transmission of the virus, and the adoption of measures designed to limit exposure and contracting the virus. Additionally, our school district has issued specific instructions and made the decision to close for 2 weeks.

It is important that each and every one of us takes steps to keep each other and ourselves safe. The basics of protecting against coronavirus are:

- Limit exposure: cancel or do not make plans to be around large groups or gatherings; the Governor has prohibited any gatherings of over 250 people.
- Wash your hands: follow good hand-washing procedures (20 seconds) or use hand-sanitizer
- Stay home: if you are feeling sick, have a fever, or suspect you have been in contact with someone who contracted the virus, tell someone, but self-quarantine.
- Work remotely: if your job allows it, work from home.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands. Avoid shaking hands
- Cover your mouth with your sleeve or elbow while coughing and sneezing.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Wear a face mask: use a face mask ONLY if you are sick or coughing, it has been understood that wearing a mask is not protection against coronavirus and only reduces the supply available to the sick and healthcare workers.

Our public health team is very engaged; please stay aware of any updates through our official source of information, www.templetonma.gov, our social media sites, and your local news television/cable channels.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Currie

Chairman, Board of Selectmen