



CITY of BEVERLY
BOARD of HEALTH

90 Colon Street
Beverly, Massachusetts 01915
Phone (978) 921-8591
Fax (978) 922-5695



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Mayor

Michael P. Cahill

Director of Public Health

William T. Burke III, RS, CHO

COVID-19 ADVISORY REGARDING FACE COVERINGS

Recently the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced they recommend the use of cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), **especially** in areas of significant community-based transmission. The CDC's recommendation is based on the fact that recent studies show that a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms ("asymptomatic") and that those who eventually develop symptoms ("pre-symptomatic") can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms.

Therefore, in accordance with the new guidance from the CDC, the Beverly Board of Health advises residents and visitors to wear a mask or cloth face covering while in public to help slow the transmission of this virus. Residents can access the Surgeon General's instructional video on how to make a cloth face covering here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9YLXEhSjVsw>

Masks are not a substitute for other measures. Residents are reminded that social distancing is of critical importance in helping slow the spread of this disease. **It is crucial to emphasize that residents should continue to maintain all social distancing requirements of 6-feet or greater.** This Advisory complements and does not replace or minimize the importance of social distancing, effective handwashing, cough etiquette and staying home when sick.

Date: April 6, 2020

For The Board of Health

William T. Burke III, RS, CHO
Director of Public Health