



Town of Adams • Massachusetts 01220

Inspectional Services

ADAMS TOWN HALL
8 PARK STREET
TEL. (413) 743-8300
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Public Health Order ~ Community Housing

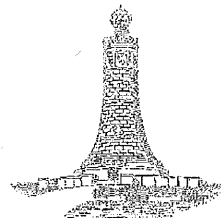
On April 7, 2020, the Adams Inspectional Services Department issued the following Public Health Order pertaining to community housing:

On March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a Declaration of a State of Emergency to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak; and, on March 13, 2020, the Town of Adams issued a similar Declaration of a Local State of Emergency recognizing that COVID-19 poses a significant, immediate threat to the public health, safety and welfare of people residing, working and visiting within the Town.

As you know, the impact of this virus is particularly devastating to the elderly and those with underlying health issues. Many of our local nursing homes are seeing a surge in positive cases. We know that any group home or residential setting creates unique circumstances in fighting this virus, and we are focused on remaining proactive in an effort to slow its spread.

Therefore, pursuant to Chapter 111, Sections 6, 30, 104 and/or 122, of the Massachusetts General Laws, and based on recommended C.D.C. and Massachusetts Department of Public Health guidelines, we Order that the following actions be implemented or strengthened immediately.

1. Provide hand sanitizer in the front door area and require all visitors to use it before entering.
2. Stop all non-essential visitors (anyone not providing medical/food intervention). If visitors are essential for well-being, provide an outside location and follow social distancing guidelines of 6'.
3. Limit resident activity in and out of the building whenever possible.
4. Provide dispatch with any and all known symptoms when calling 9-1-1.
5. Notify all personal care providers/medical staff to wear masks and gloves when entering the building. All employees and staff shall wear protective masks when engaging people inside or at your community complex.
6. Close all community rooms and shared resources.



7. Clean surfaces (handles, doorknobs, elevators, bathrooms) multiple times daily.
8. Restrict all shared spaces that cannot be closed (laundry/elevator/trash/delivery areas) to one person at a time and clean these areas often. Provide wipes to clean any packages as well as all surfaces that were touched. Gloves and mask are always preferable.
9. Bag and seal all garbage. Wash all recyclables and store them in closed containers.
10. Designate a Meals on Wheels drop-off location within the front door or notify delivery persons to wear mask and gloves. They should knock on the door, step back and let the tenant take their food. If this is not possible, proper notification should be made to the resident to ensure social distancing.
11. Assign in-house staff to deliver food to specific apartments whenever possible.
12. Follow and keep up to date with all CDC guidelines specific to COVID-19.

We understand that it is impossible to control everything that people do, but it is vital that we take these steps to help our most vulnerable populations. We are still learning so much about this virus, and our recommendations may change as new data become available.

This Public Health Order shall remain in effect until officially rescinded. Please be informed that you could be fined not more than \$300 for violations of this Order; each event or day of non-compliance constitutes a separate violation.

If you would like to appeal this decision, you may make appeal to any court of competent jurisdiction within 10-days of this Order. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,



Mark D. Blaisdell, Code Enforcement Officer
Town of Adams Inspectional Services
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E-mail: mblaisdell@town.adams.ma.us

Cc: Adams Police Department
Adams Board of Health
Adams Board of Selectmen

