

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A summary of news, events, and other announcements for the week of August 2, 2021



FACE MASKS REQUIRED INSIDE TOWN BUILDINGS AS OF AUGUST 10, 2021

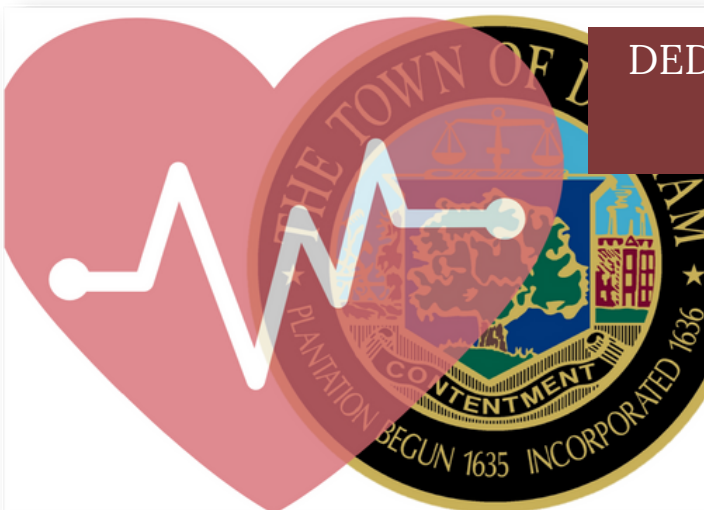
As of Tuesday, August 10, 2021, face masks/face coverings will be required for all individuals aged 2 years or older, regardless of vaccination status, when inside all Town of Dedham municipal buildings. Read page 3 for more information.

IAGB INDIA DAY FLAG RAISING AT TOWN HALL AUGUST 12TH AT 6PM

Dedham joins communities across the state in raising the flags of India and USA, honoring India's 75th Independence Day celebration. Read page 4 for more information.



IAGB
INDIA ASSOCIATION
OF GREATER BOSTON



DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATES: COVID-19 VACCINATION RATES, RETURN TO SCHOOL

The Dedham Board of Health issued their weekly update on Friday, August 6, 2021. Read the update, starting on page 4, to learn more about local vaccination rates and return to school recommendations.

VOLUME II ISSUE IX



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Parking Meter Installation Begins in Dedham
 During the first three weeks of August (8/3-20), work crews will be preparing the sidewalks and installing parking meters and equipment along Washington Street, between High and Bryant streets, in Dedham Square.



Crews will first focus on the east side of Washington Street—from Café Fresh Bagel south to Dedham Savings. Two spaces in front of the Dedham Bike Shop will be affected for a portion of this time for the removal of the old pay station there. Up to 19 spaces will be affected during this phase. Contractors will make them available for parking as soon as safely possible. Driveways in this area will also be affected temporarily.

Work will proceed from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Weekdays only. Most on-street parking spaces should be available after 4 p.m. on weekdays and all day on Saturdays and Sundays.

TOWN HALL TALK AUGUST 2021 EDITION NOW AVAILABLE

Check out the August issue of the Town Hall Talk newsletter, now available on our website, to learn more about what is going on across Town Departments and in the community. Read page 5 to learn more.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES

Crews continue to make great progress on the construction of the combined public safety building. For a summary of work onsite this week and potential impacts to travel in the area, please see page 5.



PUBLIC MEETINGS & UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Meetings and events around Town are being held in-person again, and some are continuing the virtual model or testing out the hybrid approach. Check out page 6 for a list of upcoming meetings and community events happening around Town.

FACE MASKS REQUIRED INSIDE TOWN BUILDINGS AS OF AUGUST 10, 2021

As of Tuesday, August 10, 2021, **face masks/face coverings will be required** for all individuals aged 2 years or older, regardless of vaccination status, when inside all Town of Dedham municipal buildings.

The **Massachusetts Department of Public Health Dashboard** has listed the following data for Norfolk County:

- Dedham has experienced 17 newly confirmed cases of COVID-19 over a two-week period as of August 5, 2021.
- The Town saw less than 5 newly confirmed cases in the two weeks leading up to July 15, 2021.
- Dedham's current 14-day average daily incidence rate (per 100,000 residents) is 4.4.
- On July 15, 2021, the Town's 14-day average daily incidence rate was 1.
- The current 14-day average daily incidence rate (per 100,000 residents) in Norfolk County is 6.4.

According to the **CDC Risk Map**, Norfolk County is currently at “substantial risk for Covid-19 transmission.”

“To protect the safety and wellness of our residents, guests, and staff, we are reinstating the face mask requirement in all municipal buildings,” said Town Manager Leon Goodwin. “This requirement will remain in effect until further notice, and we will provide updates through our website and social media accounts when available.”

At this time, appointments are not required to conduct business at municipal offices, and events and meetings will continue as planned. Signs will be posted at the entrances and exits of all town buildings as a reminder of this requirement.

The following measures remain in place in Town buildings to ensure the health and safety of both employees and the public:

- Increased cleaning schedules in Town buildings
- Installed hand sanitization stations
- Protective barriers

Residents visiting Town buildings are encouraged to maintain a social distance of 6 feet from others when feasible.

To sign up for future updates and notification, subscribe on our website at **www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe** and select “Town Management”.

Covid-19 Vaccination Locations

Individuals in Massachusetts between the ages of 12 and 17 are eligible to receive the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine, and individuals over the age of 18 can get any of the approved Covid-19 vaccines. If you have not yet received your Covid-19 vaccine, visit the state website at **<https://vaxfinder.mass.gov/>** to find an appointment near you. (Note: Insurance and ID are not required to receive the vaccine.)

Covid-19 Testing Locations

To review your symptoms and to find a Covid-19 testing site near you, search the database on the State website at **<https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-testing>**

IAGB INDIA DAY FLAG RAISING AT TOWN HALL AUGUST 12TH AT 6PM

The Town of Dedham will join the India Association of Greater Boston (IAGB) and over 40 cities and towns across Massachusetts in raising the Indian Flag to commemorate India's 75th Independence Day Celebration.

Join Town staff, the Select Board, the IAGB, and members of the community as we raise this flag together and celebrate India's 75th Independence Day!

EVENT PRESS RELEASE FROM THE IAGB

As we all recognize, this COVID-19 pandemic re-routed our paths having adjusted to various new norms and has changed how we work, learn and interact. As social distancing guidelines have led to a more virtual existence, both personally and professionally, even as we got vaccinated in phases, we yet continue our pledge of virtual existence for the foreseeable future.

We continue to comply with the guidelines and strive to find safer, low-key ways of celebrating various special milestone socio-cultural or historic occasions, which are traditionally and historically celebrated in a grand way welcoming a huge public gathering.

Last year, in August 2020, we created history by holding successful flag raising events in over 32 towns and cities, by raising and honoring the Indian and U.S Flags in the heart of each town/city, with the support of the local town and city officials.

Continuing last year's success story in the current year 2021, we will be raising the Indian flags in over 40 towns/cities in MA, to commemorate the momentous India's 75th Independence Day celebration.

We will have these events starting August 1st through the 14th, culminating into the grand finale cultural event, "IAGB India Day", which is back to its core, at the Hatch Memorial Shell alongside Charles River.

So, look out for details on events in or near your town and the grand finale and come join the festivity as we honor India's 75th Independence Day celebration with style, pride and vigor!



National Flag of India

DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATES: COVID-19, VACCINATION RATES, RETURN TO SCHOOL

The Board reports that as of Thursday, August 5th, there have been 2,492 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Town. Currently, there are 15 active confirmed cases. The Commonwealth is not sequencing all positive COVID-19 specimens, and as a result, it cannot be determined that all cases are related to the Delta Variant.

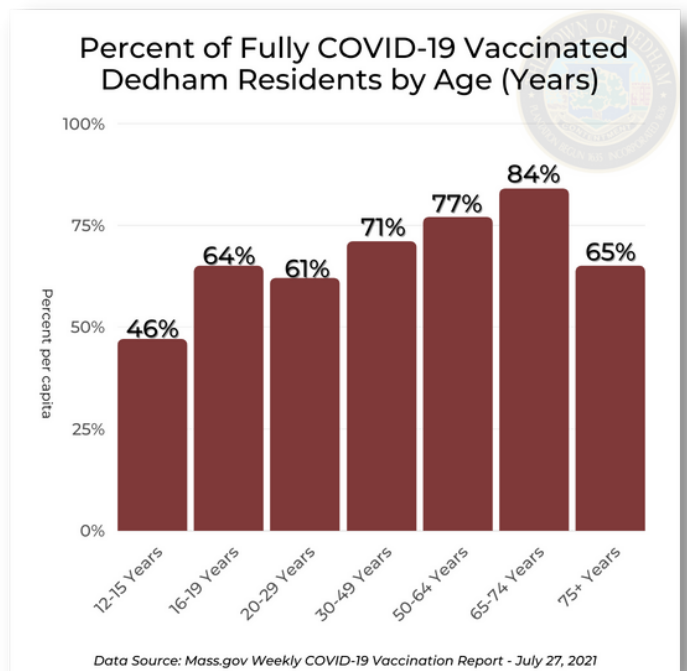
COVID-19 Vaccine

According to State data as of July 27, 2021, 62% of Dedham residents are fully vaccinated for COVID-19, which is a total of 16,956 residents. Below please find a graph of the percentage of Dedham residents fully vaccinated by age.

The Board encourages anyone who is eligible and unvaccinated to get the vaccine. The COVID-19 vaccine is safe, free, and effective – even against the Delta variant. Go to [Vaxfinder.mass.gov](https://vaxfinder.mass.gov) or contact your local pharmacy or healthcare provider for information about getting the vaccine.

Return to School Recommendations

On Friday, July 30th, The MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) issued the following recommendations for returning to school in the Fall, on page 5:



Click on chart above to enlarge

DEDHAM BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATES (CONTINUED)

- All students in kindergarten through grade 6 wear masks when indoors, except students who cannot due to medical conditions or behavioral needs. Masks are not necessary outdoors and may be removed while eating indoors.
- Unvaccinated staff in all grades, unvaccinated students in grades 7 and above, and unvaccinated visitors wear masks indoors.
- Allow vaccinated students to remain unmasked.
- Any individual at higher risk for severe disease from COVID-19 or with a household member who is at high risk is encouraged to mask regardless of vaccination status consistent with the updated MDPH Mask Advisory.
- By federal public health order, all students and staff must wear masks on school buses.

TOWN HALL TALK AUGUST 2021 EDITION NOW AVAILABLE

The August 2021 Edition of the [Town Hall Talk Newsletter](#) is now available! In this month's edition you will find:



- Board of Health Updates
- Dedham Public Library Summer Programs
- Installation of Additional Parking Meters in the Dedham Square
- Neponset Stormwater Partnership Survey and Rain Barrel Contest
- Conservation Dept. Updates and News
- Dedham Police Lieutenant Retires and New Officer Enters Academy
- Endicott Estate Updates
- Road Construction and Project Updates

... and so much more! (Click on the newsletter to the left to read it online)

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES

What to expect August 9, 2021 (Monday) through August 13, 2021 (Friday):

- The project site remains closed to the public.
- The dewatering system remains in place and operational.
- Steel installation will continue using the crane located onsite.
- Deliveries of steel and metal decking will continue next week.
- Expect periodic entrance and exit of large trucks at the project site entrance, located at the intersection of Washington Street and Bryant Street. Please expect minor traffic delays at this intersection.
- This week, crews will continue to install waterproofing and damp proofing at the foundation walls.
- To maintain an efficient and organized jobsite, crews will continue to remove excess material for the site.
- No additional traffic impacts or pedestrian impacts are anticipated during this week.

For more information and to sign up for weekly construction updates, visit the [Public Safety Building Project page](#).



Before (photo taken April 9, 2021)
- Click on the image to enlarge



After (photo taken July 27, 2021) - Click on the image to enlarge



PUBLIC MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS WEEK

Agendas and event information are linked below. Meeting information is also available on our website calendar



Monday, 8/9/21:

- **Snow Committee** at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, 8/11/21:

- **Farmer's Market** from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at First Church Green
- **Summer Concert Series** at 7:00 p.m. at Endicott Estate

Thursday, 8/12/21:

- **IAGB India Flag Raising** at 6:00 p.m. in front of Town Hall
- **Select Board** at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall and Zoom (Hybrid Meeting)

Events shown as listed on the Town calendar as of 8/9/21
Don't forget to check out the **Dedham Public Library events calendar!**

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!



Sign up to receive news, updates, and other announcements, delivered right to your inbox from the Town of Dedham on our website. The best part is, you can select the topics you are interested in and update this information at any time!



Departments across Town have set up social media accounts to share information, as well as post about exciting news around Town. Visit our **Social Media** page to find the accounts you want to follow!