

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A summary of news, events, and other announcements for the week of February 28, 2022

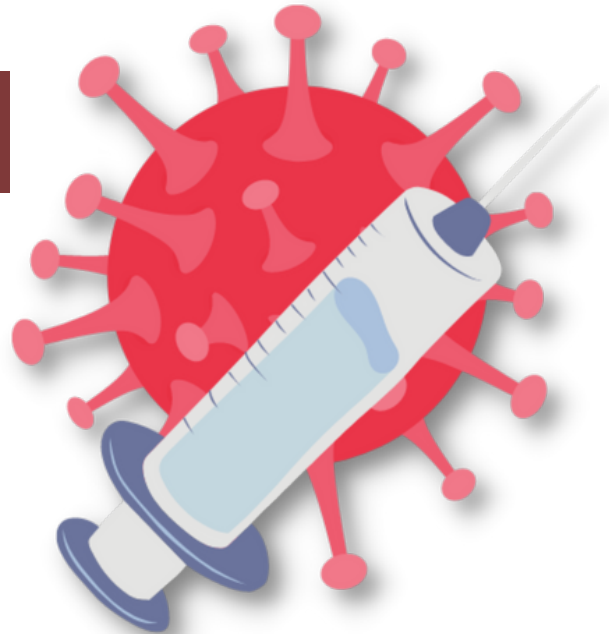


REGISTER TO VOTE BY MARCH 18, 2022

Have you registered to vote in the upcoming Town election? Head to page 3 to read more about how to apply and the fast-approaching deadline.

BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE –
FEBRUARY 25, 2022

The Board of Health reports that as of February 24, 2022, there have been a total of 4,898 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Dedham. Read their full report on page 3.



MASK REQUIREMENT IN TOWN BUILDINGS
ENDS TODAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022

Masks and face coverings are no longer required inside Dedham municipal buildings as of today, February 28th. Read more on page 4.



SAVE THE DATE – TOWN-WIDE RECYCLING DAY WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022

A town-wide recycling event has been scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the Dedham Middle School. Read more on page 5 and subscribe for future updates and announcements.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES

The Public Safety Building project team is continuing to enclose the building to continue the interior work throughout the winter season. Read what to expect this week on page 5.



PUBLIC MEETINGS & UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

View this week's schedule, review posted agendas, and find out how to attend upcoming events and meetings on page 7.

REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE TOWN ELECTIONS BY MARCH 18, 2022

Dedham Town Elections will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022

The deadline to register to vote in the upcoming Annual Town Elections in Dedham is **Friday, March 18, 2022**.

The Annual Town Elections will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022 with polls open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in all seven voting precincts. In order to be eligible to register or pre-register to vote, you must be:

1. A United States citizen
2. At least 16 years old
3. Not currently incarcerated for a felony conviction

If you have not already registered to vote and would like to, please use one of the following options:

- In-Person: Stop by the Town Clerk's Office, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., to register in-person. The Office is open until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, too.
- By Mail: Download and complete the **Mail-In Voter Registration Form** at home and mail to the Town Clerk's Office at 450 Washington Street, Dedham, MA 02026
- Online: Visit the **Massachusetts Secretary of State website** to register to vote online.

BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – FEBRUARY 25, 2022

Below please find COVID-19 information as of February 24, 2022. More statistics can be found on www.mass.gov.

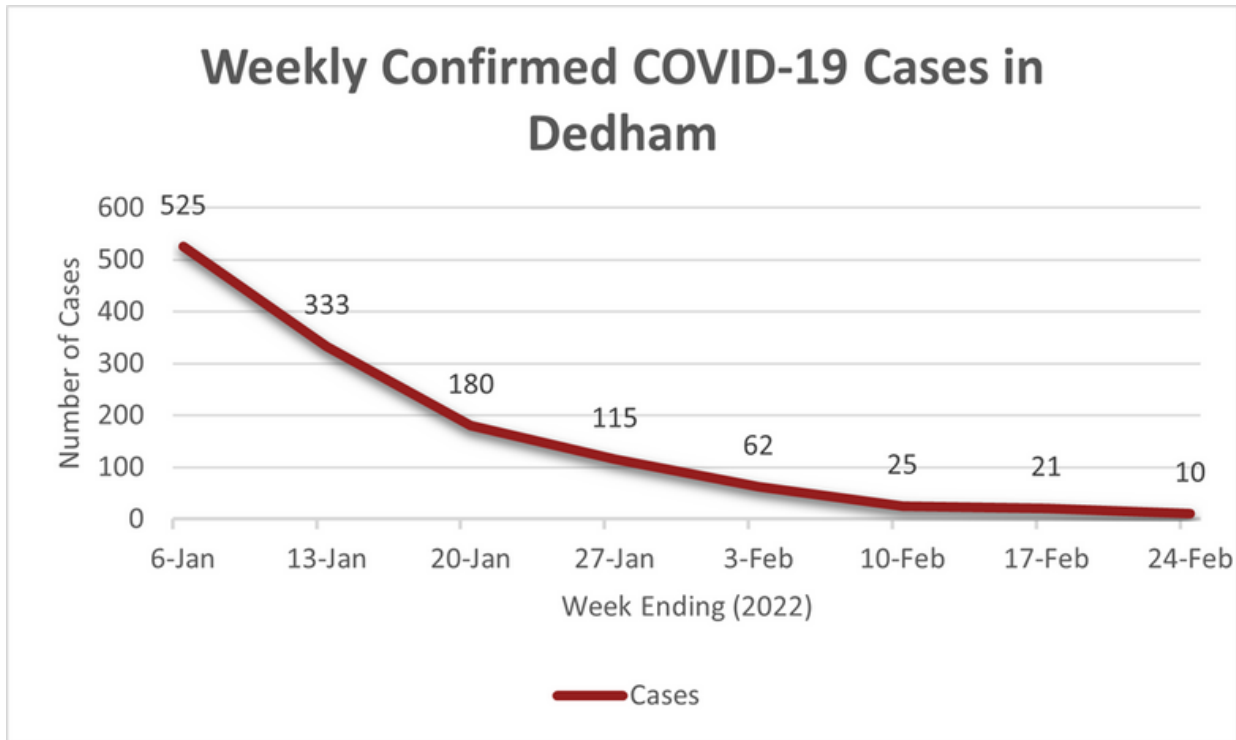
	Total Cases	New Cases	14-day Percent Positivity	Fully Vaccinated Residents
Dedham	4,898	16 (since Feb. 17, 2022)	3.66%	20,147
MA	1,535,009	938 (Feb. 22, 2022)	4.22%	5,278,536

NOTE: These numbers do not include people who tested positive with at-home antigen tests.

Decline in Dedham COVID-19 Cases

There has been a significant decline in Dedham's reported COVID-19 cases in since the start of 2022. This is in line with trends seen across the Commonwealth. The chart below shows a decrease in Dedham cases over the last two months.

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At-Home COVID-19 Tests for Dedham Residents in Need

The Town of Dedham purchased a limited supply of at-home COVID-19 tests to distribute to residents disproportionately impacted by the pandemic using available funds through the American Rescue Plan Act, commonly referred to as “ARPA”. The Town is using the below criteria to determine resident eligibility:

- Low-income status
- Mobility issues
- At-risk for severe illness (per CDC guidelines - including people over 65 and those with medical conditions)

At this time, the at-home test distribution is a one-time-only resource for residents that fit the criteria above and has been established to prioritize those in need within our community. Please contact the Health Department at (781) 751-9220 if you believe you are eligible and are interested in receiving a free at-home test.

COVID-19 Vaccine

Residents 5 years and older are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine and residents 12 years and older are eligible to get a COVID-19 booster. The Board encourages anyone who is eligible to get vaccinated. Vaccine appointments can be scheduled at vaxfinder.mass.gov.

MASK REQUIREMENT IN TOWN BUILDINGS ENDS TODAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022

As of Monday, February 28, 2022, masks and face coverings are no longer required for employees and visitors to municipal buildings in Dedham. Town Manager Leon Goodwin announced the update to the mask advisory at the February 17, 2022 Select Board meeting.

MASK REQUIREMENT IN TOWN BUILDINGS ENDS TODAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022 - CONTINUED

“Our COVID-19 Task Force has met regularly throughout the pandemic to review data and guidelines from the State to ensure we consistently follow practices that protect residents, visitors, and employees of the Town,” said Goodwin. “With preventative and protective measures in place, the decline of new cases reported in Dedham, and the increased availability of vaccinations, tests, and personal protective equipment (commonly referred to as “PPE”), the Town will no longer require masks or face coverings when inside Town buildings.”

The following measures will remain in place in Town buildings to safeguard both employees and the public:

- Improved air filtration systems
- Enhanced cleaning in Town buildings
- Hand sanitization stations

To review the full announcement, please visit our website at www.dedham-ma.gov.

SAVE THE DATE – TOWN-WIDE RECYCLING DAY WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022

Dedham’s Department of Public Works and Sustainability Advisory Committee, along with the Neponset Valley Sunrise Rotary Club, will hold a recycling event on Saturday, April 2 from 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Dedham Middle School, 70 Whiting Avenue. It will take place rain or shine and is free for Dedham residents, except for electronics which will include a fee.

Residents will be able to recycle items not accepted in bi-weekly curbside pickup. Confirmed recycling opportunities include scrap metal, paper shredding, electronics and Styrofoam. Styrofoam items stamped #6 often include white packaging blocks, coolers, clean polystyrene coffee cups, white grocery meat trays, and takeout clam shell food packaging. Packing peanuts are not accepted.

Textiles, including clothing, footwear, linens and accessories such as stuffed animals, may always be dropped off at the white collection boxes offered by Bay State Textiles. These boxes are located in the parking lots of the Middle School, the Avery, Greenlodge, and Riverdale Elementary Schools, and the Early Childhood Education Center.

As the date approaches, the DPW will update its website (www.dedham-ma.gov/DPW) with details on further recycling options and the fees for electronics.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES

What to expect February 28, 2022 (Monday) through March 4, 2022 (Friday):

- The project site remains closed to the public.
- Roofing contractors will be working onsite this week to complete detail work.
- Crews will continue mechanical, electrical, fire protection, and plumbing installations this week.
- The build-out for the electrical/mechanical room within the building has begun and will continue this week.
- Repairs to the elevator shaft are expected to be completed this week. The anticipated delivery date of the elevator is **March 1, 2022**.

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PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES - CONTINUED

What to expect February 28, 2022 (Monday) through March 4, 2022 (Friday):

- The installation of the 4-inch concrete masonry unit wall in the garage is still underway. Masonry contractors will continue to install the stone veneer to the west side of the building this week.
- Installation of Stair #1 is anticipated to be completed by the end of the week.
- Eversource crews will return this week to relocate the existing overhead utility wires from the existing poles to the newly installed poles.
- The interior cold form metal framing work will continue this week. Air/vapor barrier installation is nearing completion and will continue this week.
- Crews will continue to install the exterior stone veneer on the east side of the building.
- 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.
- No additional traffic impacts or pedestrian impacts are anticipated during this week.

Project Team Contact Information:

- Immediate issues or concerns, please contact the Dedham Town Manager's Office at **781-751-9100**.
- For general questions or concerns, please contact the project team at **psb@dedham-ma.gov**
- For more information about the Public Safety Building Project, please visit the project website at **www.dedham-ma.gov/psb**
- Download our **[project team contact information flyer](#)** on the project website.

Click on the Before/After below to use the slider and enlarge



Caption: Aerial photos of the project site to show the progress of construction. The photo to the left was taken April 9, 2021, and the photo to the right was taken February 3, 2022. Both photos were taken by drone.

PUBLIC MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

Monday, 2/28/22:

- **Human Rights Commission** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Tuesday, 3/1/22:

- **Board of Library Trustees** at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom
- **Blue Hills District School Committee** at 7:00 p.m. at Blue Hills Regional School, Canton

Wednesday 3/2/22:

- **Design Review Advisory Board** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **School Committee** at 7:00 p.m. at the Avery Elementary School

Thursday, 3/3/22:

- **Board of Library Trustees** at 7:00 p.m. at the Main Public Library
- **Conservation Commission** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Events shown as listed on the Town calendar as of 2/28/22. Don't forget to check out the **Dedham Public Library events calendar** and the **Dedham Public Schools calendar**!

LET'S STAY CONNECTED!

The Town of Dedham strives to keep residents and visitors informed of Town projects, local government processes, meetings, and community events and is focusing on timely, sustainable, and consistent communications in 2022 and for years to come.

We currently use a variety of communication platforms and tools that enable us to share important information and encourage engagement with local departments and staff. We regularly review the effectiveness of these tools to help us continue to improve and reach as many people as possible.

We encourage you to sign-up to receive updates and notifications using the tools below:



Email Notifications

Visit www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe to sign up today!



Social Media

Follow @DedhamThrives for Town-wide updates and notifications on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram



Find us on Nextdoor!

Dedham residents can sign up to join Nextdoor for free and follow the Town of Dedham for news and updates



CodeRed

Sign up for [CodeRED notifications](#) to receive emergency alerts



Dedham TV

The Town of Dedham maintains a strong collaborative relationship with Dedham TV who broadcasts public meetings, community events, educational specials, and more!



Local Media

The Town of Dedham is pleased to work closely with local news outlets like the Dedham Times and Patch to share updates and important news in print and online.