

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A summary of news, events, and other announcements for the week of March 7, 2022



DEDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCE 11TH ANNUAL CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Registration is open for the 2022 Citizens Police Academy. Read page 3 for more information and to find out how to apply.

BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – MARCH 4, 2022

The Board of Health reports that as of March 3, 2022, there have been a total of 4,911 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Dedham. Read their full report on page 3.



ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER URGES RESIDENTS NOT TO FEED WILDLIFE



Animal Control Officer Deni Goldman is asking all residents to be mindful of wildlife in the area and resist feeding them. Read more on page 4.



TICKETS FOR DEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL "HAIRSPRAY" ON SALE

The DHS Class of 2022 and Performing Arts Company will perform this hit musical in in just a few weeks and tickets are on sale. Read more on page 5.

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.



DEDHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCE 11TH ANNUAL CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The Dedham Police Department is pleased to announce that we are planning to host the Department's 11th Citizens Police Academy. This is an informational program designed to provide citizens of Dedham with an inside look at the inner workings of a modern police department. This will be an interactive forum which will allow for the exchange of information between police officers and citizens. Citizens of all ages are invited to attend. This is a unique opportunity for citizens and officers to build trust and understanding related to policing services in Dedham. **There is no cost to attend this program.**

Participants will be presented with information from Dedham Police Officers, E911 Dispatchers and civilian personnel. Material related to E-911, crime prevention, juvenile issues, alcohol enforcement, regional law enforcement councils, court procedures, the Sex Offender Registry, firearms and firearms licensing, narcotics, crime scene investigation, traffic issues, motor vehicle law, animal control and more will be discussed.

This will be a 9-week program. The Academy will meet once per week on Tuesday nights starting at 6 pm at the Endicott Estate. Each session will last up to 2 hours. The Academy will run on the following Tuesday nights: **April 12, 19 and 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, and June 7.** Those interested in attending should contact Chief Michael d'Entremont, 600 High Street, Dedham, MA 02026 or email mdentremont@police.dedham-ma.gov to express your interest in participating. Please call [781-751-9304](tel:781-751-9304) with any questions.

BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – MARCH 4, 2022

Below please find COVID-19 information as of March 3, 2022. More statistics can be found on www.mass.gov.

	Total Cases	New Cases	14-day Percent Positivity	Fully Vaccinated Residents
Dedham	4,911	13 (since Feb. 24, 2022)	2.15%	20,203
MA	1,541,642	907 (Mar. 1, 2022)	2.95%	5,287,810

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

Updated CDC COVID-19 Community Levels

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated their COVID-19 Community Levels tool which helps communities decide what prevention steps to take against COVID-19 based on data. Data sources include hospital beds in use, hospital admissions, and COVID-19 cases. Levels include low, medium, and high. Currently Norfolk County is deemed low with recommendations to stay current with COVID-19 vaccinations and get tested if you have COVID-like symptoms. More information can be found on the CDC's website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>.

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BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – MARCH 4, 2022 – CONTINUED

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.

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER URGES RESIDENTS NOT TO FEED WILDLIFE

Animal Control Officer Deni Goldman is asking all residents to be mindful of wildlife in the area and encourages people to resist feeding them, especially with food most common to humans.

“We are fortunate to live in a community where we see a variety of wildlife,” said ACO Goldman. “It is our responsibility to not create a harmful situation for ourselves and for them, and that includes supplemental feeding.”

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, commonly referred to as MassWildlife, strongly advises the public to refrain from supplemental feeding, providing additional food sources to the wildlife, as it can lead to aggressive interactions amongst animals and when around humans. The additional, not naturally occurring, source of food can also alter the animal’s normal behaviors.

“The weather is changing, and we are approaching spring when we expect to see things bloom and more animals around us,” said ACO Goldman. “We as a community can work together to reduce the potential for conflicts and negative interactions with wildlife by not positioning ourselves as a consistent source for food.”

Listed below are suggestions from MassWildlife that can help to protect ourselves and wildlife and contribute to a calm coexistence:

- Use native plants, bird houses, and fresh water instead of bird feeders to attract birds.
- If you have bird feeders, keep an eye out for other wildlife eating the fallen seeds and bring in immediately to not attract larger animals.

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ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER URGES RESIDENTS NOT TO FEED WILDLIFE - CONTINUED

- Choose plants based on your soil to create safe habitat, natural food, and cover.
- Do not leave food outside for wildlife to consume. This will encourage them to return and attract more animals.
- Do not throw food scraps on the ground, in your garden, or in your yard. This can create health issues, cause aggression, and attract large crowds of animals that may spread disease to other wildlife.
- If you use a compost bin, make sure it can securely close.
- Keep pet food and water indoors.
- Do not approach wildlife, even to get a photo. Respect their space and they will respect yours.

While it may be tempting to feed the animals, they should never rely on us as a primary source for food. By allowing the wildlife to be wild and to live as they naturally do, coexistence will not just continue, it will likely thrive.

To contact Animal Control Officer Deni Goldman, please call (781) 751-9106 or send her an email at dgoldman@police.dedham-ma.gov.

TICKETS FOR DEDHAM HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL "HAIRSPRAY" ON SALE

The Dedham High School Class of 2022 and Performing Arts Company present
"Hairspray"!

Showtimes:

- Friday, March 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, March 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, March 27, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Where: James F. Dunne Auditorium (High School Auditorium), 140 Whiting Avenue, Dedham, MA 02026

Tickets:

- Purchase online at <https://www.ticketstage.com/T/DEDHAMPS>
 - Students: \$10.00
 - Senior Citizens: \$15.00
 - General Admission: \$20.00
- Tickets can be purchased at the door



PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES

What to expect March 7, 2022 (Monday) through March 11, 2022 (Friday):

- The project site remains closed to the public.
- Last week, insulators began installing the piping insulation on the second floor of the Fire Department. Work will continue this week.
- Exterior installation of Shouldice, stone veneer, will continue this week on the west and north sides of the building.
- Crews completed repairs to the elevator shaft and the elevator is expected to be delivered by the end of March.

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PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES - CONTINUED

What to expect March 7, 2022 (Monday) through March 11, 2022 (Friday):

- The roofing subcontractor is nearing completion of the roof and will continue this week to install the roofing on the sally port. (The sally port is the secure and enclosed entry point where police unload those in custody by the Police Department.)
- As installation nears completion, this week crews will continue to install the air vapor barrier along the exterior of the building.
- The interior cold form metal framing work will continue this week and crews will work to finish installing the remaining DensGlass sheathing on the exterior of the building.
- Crews have begun installation of the second floor fire door frame and will continue this week.
- The installation of stairway #1 is complete and crews will continue to work on slab repairs until complete.
- Eversource crews are slated to return to relocate the existing overhead utility wires from the existing poles to the newly installed poles.
- 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.

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 image below to enlarge



Caption: Photo of the active construction site, taken from the north side of Town Hall on Friday, March 4, 2022. The white sheeting around the exterior of the building acts as a protective barrier while the stone veneer is installed.

PUBLIC MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS WEEK

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

Monday, 3/7/22:

- **Board of Registrars** at 5:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- **Listening Session - Parking Meters** at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom
- **Open Space and Recreation Committee** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **Dedham Square Planning Committee** at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall
- **Dog Park Committee** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Tuesday, 3/8/22:

- **DOSA - Dedham Organization for Substance Awareness** at 6:00 p.m. via Hybrid Meeting
- **VFW Recreation Access Study Virtual Information Meeting** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **Transportation Advisory Committee** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday 3/9/22:

- **Planning Board** at 6:00 p.m. at Ames Senior Center
- **Select Board** at 6:00 p.m. at Ames Senior Center

Thursday, 3/10/22:

- **Select Board** at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Events shown as listed on the Town calendar as of 3/7/22. 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.