Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee

Situational Awareness Update

6/17/2020

The Southern Berkshire Regional Emergency Planning Committee has been asked to help coordinate resources and information from our member Towns, other REPCs, and across disciplines. It has been decided to stand up a virtual Joint Information Center to better receive and disseminate information and improve situational awareness. We ask that you let the SBREPC know what your Town/Community/Organization is currently doing, what you are planning, and any challenges you are facing or anticipate facing. We are also asking for potential resource needs so they can be funneled to the appropriate agency. We are working with other area REPCs to try to address any needs or concerns. The SBREPC can be reached at sbrepc@gmail.com.

We will be sending out these updates periodically. Please note that the SBREPC is not taking inquiries from the public or from the media. Those are to be handled by the individual towns.

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| **TOTAL NUMBER OF COVID-19 CASES** | | | | | |
| U.S.: | 2,149,238 | MA: | 106,151 | County: | 582 |

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| **TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES IN SBREPC TOWNS PER DPH** | | | | | | | |
| Alford | <5 | Monterey | 0 | Otis | <5 | Stockbridge | 14 |
| Egremont | 5 | Mt. Washington | 0 | Sandisfield | <5 | Tyringham | <5 |
| Gt. Barrington | 72 | New Marlborough | 7 | Sheffield | 15 | West Stockbridge | 5 |

**GENERAL UPDATES**

* Fairview Hospital will be offering free COVID-19 tests for anyone who has attended a large gathering over the past two weeks. This includes first responders and those working in public safety. The tests will be offered Wednesday June 17th and Thursday June 18th from Noon-7 PM at our 10 Maple Avenue testing location. An appointment is required for this test. To make an appointment please call 1-855-262-5465. If you have any questions please contact Heather Barbieri.
* Update from the RMV is attached to today’s email.
* Updated food access resources- <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1a3XZx8MlmW8GSlLKXBlzUpM_NwY6V2bcVm4ApD5Mw3k/edit?usp=sharing>
* We are encouraging all groups to start to go through your normal supply chain for equipment and supplies (including PPE). MEMA and our other sources are winding down their supply operations. We know there will be some challenges as far as backordering and limitations. If you have problems please let Chief Burger know and we can see if we can help.

**MUNICIPAL UPDATES**

* None at this time.

**FAIRVIEW HOSPITAL UPDATES**

* Fairview has opened a drive-through COVID testing site at 10 Maple Avenue.
* We are open from 8 am – noon Monday thought Friday (except holidays).
  + The last appointment is 11:50 am.
  + When the scheduling department is booking same day add-ons – they cannot book an appointment within ½ hour of the current time.  In other words, the latest someone can call for a same day add-on is 11:20 am.
* Testing is by appointment only.
* For the general public, tests (appointments) must be first authorized by the BMC Link line (1.855.262.5465).
  + The nurses on this line use the Mass DPH guidance to determine a person’s eligibility for a test.
  + The DPH testing guidance is changing frequently and we are keeping up with all recommendations.
  + The link line is open from 8 am – 4:30 PM, 7 days a week.
* If you have any questions please contact Heather Barbieri.
* Fairview has successfully been sterilizing N95 masks.
* If your department has N95 masks that you would like to have sterilized for reuse, please contact Heather Barbieri at hbarbieri@bhs1.org for additional instructions. At this point we have the capacity to sterilize 10 masks a day for First Responders. The masks need to be placed in a special sleeve so arrangements need to be made ahead of time for drop off and pick up. We will not accept masks that have not been properly packaged.

**PUBLIC HEALTH/BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATES**

* None at this time

**EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATES**

* Anyone calling 911 is reminded to advise the dispatcher of all symptoms or possible exposures so that emergency responders can take necessary precautions.
* There is concern that people are not calling 911 out of fear of the COVID-19 virus. The public should be encouraged to call 911 for life threatening emergencies or illnesses despite these concerns.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATES**

* None at this time

**RESOURCES**

* The State’s reopening website: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/reopening-massachusetts>
* The State’s dashboard for reporting is located at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting>
* Meals on Wheels is still running. Please call Elder Services of Berkshire County at 413-499-0524 for more information.
* Berkshire Health Systems has established a toll-free hotline for questions regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Hours are 8 AM to 4:30 PM seven days a week. Call 855-BMC-LINK (855-262-5465)
* The Medical Reserve Corps is available for any towns/agencies needing volunteers. Contact Carmela Lanza-Weil if you need volunteers at carmela@wmmrc.org or at 503-750-1439. You can also go to the website at www.WMMRC.org.