



# City of Easthampton Situation Report

January 22, 2021

## Massachusetts Reopening Update

The Baker-Polito Administration has made the following announcements:

1. Effective Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00am, the Stay at Home Advisory for the hours of 10:00pm-5:00am will be rescinded.
2. Effective Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00am, the Mandatory Early Closure of Businesses Order requiring certain businesses to close by 9:30pm will be rescinded.
3. Effective Monday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00am, gatherings may go beyond 9:30pm. However, the 25% capacity and gathering limits will be in place until 5:00am on Monday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.

*Please note: At this time, Phase 3, Step 2 businesses must remain fully closed.*

*For more information, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/temporary-limits-reopening-massachusetts>.*

## COVID-19 Vaccine Information

The COVID-19 vaccine distribution timeline is decided by the state of Massachusetts. The vaccine is only available to eligible residents based on the current phase the state is in.

The state is currently on bullet point four of Phase I. This includes congregate care settings.

If you are eligible and don't know where to get vaccinated, please click [HERE](#).

If you have general questions on the distribution schedule, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine>.

## COVID-19 Testing Information

Free testing is available to all MA residents through the state's "Stop the Spread" campaign. There are 3 locations in Western MA: Amherst, Holyoke, and Springfield.

For more information on these sites, please visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stop-the-spread>

Information on when you should get tested is available at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/about-covid-19-testing>

## School Meal Pick-up Information

Reminder that free meals are available to families with children (regardless of income) for all children ages 0-18. Children do not have to be in the Easthampton Public School system. Free meals will be available through the end of the 2021 school year.

Meal pick-up is available at Easthampton High School every week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00am to 12:00 noon.

There is no registration for this meal pick-up, but families are encouraged to call and let the staff know how many meals they need to ensure they have enough meals for everyone. No personal information such as names or addresses need to be provided. Families can call the School Department at 413-529-1500 ext. 128.

## Small Business Grant Opportunity

Reminder that grants up to \$10,000 are still available for Easthampton small businesses with 5 or fewer employees.

Valley Community Development Corporation will act as Program Administrator for the application and selection process.

Applications will be accepted until funds are exhausted.

More information is available on their website: <https://www.valleycdc.com/small-business-assistance/covid-small-business-relief-program/>

## Emily Williston Library Programs

The Emily Williston Memorial Library offers many COVID friendly events and programs.

Curbside pick-up is available Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 6:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Information on this service is available [HERE](#).

Virtual book clubs and story times are also being held. Programs are available for individuals of all ages.

For more information on programs, check out their website at <https://ewmlibrary.org/>.

## Other Local News

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**2021 Open Burning Season:** Open burning season began on January 15<sup>th</sup> and goes until May 1<sup>st</sup>. Anyone wishing to obtain a burning permit will have to call Easthampton Public Safety Dispatch at 413-527-1212. Due to the ongoing pandemic, fees have been waived this year. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual WinterFest:** WinterFest is still happening this year! There are many virtual events and contests taking place now. For more information, please click [HERE](#).

**School Building Project Update:** Wondering how the new K-8 construction project is going? Check out this video by Patrick Brough: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QWHSbbBvrEo>

### City Meeting Calendar Week of January 25<sup>th</sup> to January 29<sup>th</sup>

<b>Monday, January 25, 2021</b>	<b>Manhan Rail Trail – 7:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>			
<b>Tuesday, January 26, 2021</b>	<b>Retirement Board - 1:30pm Call-in</b>	<b>Board of Assessors – 5:30pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>Community Relations Committee – 6:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>City Council Ordinance Committee – 6:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>
<b>Wednesday, January 27, 2021</b>	<b>City Council – Finance Committee - 5:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>Parks &amp; Recreation – 6:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>City Council – Appointment Committee – 6:30pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	
<b>Thursday, January 28, 2021</b>	<b>Rules &amp; Govt Relations - 5:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>City Council – Appointment Committee – 6:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	<b>Affordable &amp; Fair Housing – 6:00pm <a href="#"><u>Zoom Link</u></a></b>	

*Please note: All agendas and Zoom links are also uploaded to the city website at <https://easthamptonma.gov/agendas-minutes.html>.*

*If you are interested in serving on a board or committee, please check out the vacancies list [HERE](#). The Application to Serve is available [HERE](#).*