

# COVID-19 Update for Devens: November 3, 2020



**Updated restrictions go into Effect November 6, 2020 across MA:** COVID-19 case numbers in our state are rising and the Commonwealth's COVID-19 related hospitalizations and COVID-19 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) census have more than doubled over the past 2 months. Social gatherings are contributing to these increases. Left unchecked, the current COVID-19 case growth poses a risk to our healthcare system. Intervention is warranted to moderate case growth and preserve hospital capacity. Due to the increasing cases and hospitalizations due to COVID-19 across the state, the Governor is implementing further restrictions on high-risk activities, effective November 6, 2020:

**Stay-At-Home Advisory:** All residents of Massachusetts are advised to stay home between the hours of 10pm and 5am. In order to comply with this advisory, between the hours of 10pm and 5am, you must:

- Only leave home to go to work or school, or for essential needs such as seeking emergency medical care, going to the grocery store or pharmacy, picking up take-out food, or receiving deliveries. If you do leave home, practice social distancing by staying 6 feet away from others and wearing a face covering.
- Not have gatherings in your home with anybody outside of your household.
- Comply with all Governor's Orders, including face coverings, limiting gatherings, and early closure of businesses.
- Practice social distancing and avoid touching surfaces frequently touched by others if you go outside to get fresh air.
- Use remote modes of communication like phone or video chat instead of visiting friends or family.

**Revised Face Coverings Order:** The revised order requires all persons to wear face-coverings in all public places, even where they are able to maintain 6 feet of distance from others. The revised order still allows for an exception for residents who cannot wear a face-covering due to a medical or disabling condition, but it allows employers to require employees to provide proof of such a condition. It also allows schools to require that students participating in in-person learning provide proof of such a medical or disabling condition. Read the full order: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-order-55/download>

**Early Closing and Alcohol Order:** The following businesses and activities must close to the public each day between the hours of 9:30 PM and 5:00 AM:

- Restaurants (in-person dining must cease at 9:30 PM, although takeout and delivery may continue for food and non-alcoholic beverages, but not alcohol)
- Liquor stores and other retail establishments that sell alcohol must cease alcohol sales at 9:30 PM (but may continue to sell other products)
- Indoor & outdoor events
- Youth and adult amateur sports activities
- Golf facilities
- Driving and flight schools
- Zoos, botanical gardens, wildlife reserves, nature centers
- Close contact personal services (such as hair and nail salons)
- Gyms, Fitness Centers and Health Clubs
- Museums/cultural & historical facilities/guided tours



For a complete listing of all businesses and the full order, go to: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-order-53/download>

**Further Revised Gatherings Order:** Reduced gathering size limit for gatherings:

- Indoor gatherings at private residences: limited to 10 people;
- Outdoor gatherings at private residences: limited to 25 people;
- Indoor gatherings in public spaces and at event venues: limited to 25 people;
- Outdoor gatherings in public spaces and at event venues: limited to 50 people in High-Risk Communities;
- Outdoor gatherings in public spaces and at event venues: limited to 100 people in Low-Risk Communities.

The revised order also requires that all gatherings (regardless of size or location) must end and disperse by 9:30 PM.

Organizers of gatherings must also report known positive COVID-19 cases to the local health department in that community and cooperate with contact tracing. Fines for violating the gathering order will be \$500 for each person above the limit at a particular gathering. Full details at: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency#limits-on-gatherings->

**Following the above steps is critical to preventing the spread of the virus, protecting the lives of you and your loved ones, and preserving our acute care hospital and other health care systems' capacity.**

**Risk Level in Devens:** As of November 2, 2020, Devens remains in the yellow or low-risk category (Phase 3 Step 2).

The Devens Enterprise Commission (DEC), acting in its capacity as the local Board of Health for Devens, continues to monitor the situation in Devens in collaboration with the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, the Devens Public Safety Officer (Devens Fire Chief Tim Kelly), and MassDevelopment.

**For immediate questions and concerns, residents and businesses can dial 2-1-1.** Any Questions for the DEC can be directed to 978.772.8831.