

Dear Shutesbury Residents:

Here are the week's Covid numbers:

There are no known cases in strict isolation (days 1-5) and three known cases in days 6-10. There were three known cases in the two weeks between June 9 and June 22.

Community infection level in both Franklin and Hampshire counties is rated low.

As of July 1, the Department of Public Health will no longer recommend masking indoors for most people, regardless of vaccination status, except where masking remains mandatory.

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements>

Masking is still indicated for individuals who are at risk of severe disease or who share a household with such individuals.

When you go to the polls on June 28, please be prepared to wear a mask for the few minutes you are indoors.

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Shutesbury has received some Covid tests for distribution. Our Town Clerk, Grace Bannasch, has graciously offered to hand them out during her regular office hours. Distribution will not begin before June 30; we'll let you know when. Two per household, first come first served.

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The town's request to opt out of any mandatory pesticide spraying by the state has been approved. That's the good news – the bad news is that the opt-out does not extend to public lands. Please do everything in your power to reduce mosquito breeding habitat on your property and to protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites. For more information, see <https://www.shutesbury.org/insect-borne>

The Shutesbury Board of Health