

This update provides information on trends of COVID-19 and influenza, as well as a recent fish consumption advisory issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health

COVID-19: Rates of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and death continue to trend downward, as well as wastewater data. To view the data and graphs, click [here](#) and [here](#).

At the end of March, Massachusetts' state-funded "Stop the Spread" COVID-19 testing sites will close. Overall, these sites have provided more than 4.3 million free PCR tests since July 2020. The remaining sites in Everett, Framingham, Lawrence, Lynn, New Bedford, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, and Worcester will close on March 31. Click [here](#) to the state's DPH website to find a COVID-19 testing location near you. For more information on the closure of testing sites, click [here](#).

Influenza: Influenza severity, including influenza-like illness visits and associated hospitalizations, continues to be low throughout the state and country. More information is available [here](#).

Fish Consumption Advisory: The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) recently issued an advisory on fishing in state parks operated by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Recent testing in 13 waterbodies found fish to have high levels of poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) above DPH-recommended levels for regular consumption.

- Ashland Reservoir in Ashland
- Chicopee Reservoir in Chicopee
- Lake Cochituate in Natick
- Dennison Lake in Winchendon
- Dunn Pond in Gardner
- Fearing Pond in Plymouth
- Houghtons Pond in Milton
- Pearce Lake in Saugus
- Pequot Pond in Westfield
- Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester
- Walden Pond in Concord
- Wallum Lake in Douglas
- Watsons Pond in Taunton

PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals manufactured in common products around the world. A complete list of the waterbodies where elevated levels of PFAS were detected in fish and the recommended consumption is available [here](#). For more information, click [here](#) to view the press release from MDPH.