

**TOWN OF NANTUCKET  
BOARD OF HEALTH**

**EMERGENCY ORDER NO. – 15  
COVID-19 TASK FORCE  
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/11/2020**

Pursuant to the authority conferred upon it pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Sections 30, 31 and 122, and other applicable laws, the Board of Health of the Town of Nantucket hereby establishes the Nantucket COVID-19 Task Force. Said Task Force shall be comprised of officials from the Town's Health and Human Services, Police, Fire, Planning and Land Use and Natural Resources Departments. Those appointed to said Task Force shall be deemed agents of the Board of Health for purposes of enforcing emergency orders, guidance and directives in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 in the Town of Nantucket. Members may be appointed to the Task Force by the Health Director, in consultation with the head of the appointee's department and/or the Town Manager.

This order is necessary because, due to the unique characteristics of the Island of Nantucket, emergency orders issued by the Board of Health, the Governor and state agencies have not been effective in preventing the spread of COVID-19. In fact, in the last week alone, there has been a significant surge of COVID-19 cases on the Island, with more than 150 cases being reported. These cases have affected a wide cross-section of the community, with infected individuals ranging in age from nine months to sixty years old, with the majority being in their twenties and thirties.

Given the limited resources available to treat large numbers of infected individuals and to protect public health, safety and welfare, the Board of Health hereby issues this Emergency Order to create a task force of public officials who will be empowered to enforce the emergency orders, guidance and directives issued by the State and the Town, including but not limited to orders requiring mask wearing, physical distancing and prohibiting large gatherings. These measures have been shown to be effective in preventing the spread of the disease when there is full community support and compliance, and conversely, the failure to comply with these measures is attributable to significant increases in community positivity rate.

By creating this Task Force, it is the goal of the Board of Health to increase its ability to detect possible sources of spread, to educate residents and visitors on the importance of complying with emergency orders, guidance and directives and to initiate enforcement action, where necessary, including the assessment of fines to violators.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall remain in effect until the termination of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.