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MEDIA ALERT

While the Risk of Coronavirus to Framingham Residents is Low, Methods to Avoid the Spread of Colds and the Flu are Effective in its Prevention

Framingham, MA – With news of the first case of Coronavirus being confirmed in Massachusetts this weekend, many are concerned about the spread of the virus.

“The risk for residents of Massachusetts, including Framingham, remains low. All confirmed cases in the United States are people who have traveled to Wuhan, China, recently or someone in their immediate household who has traveled to Wuhan recently,” said Dr. Sam Wong, Director of Framingham Department of Public Health. “At this time, there is no community-level transmission of this Coronavirus in the United States. The Framingham Health Department continues to work with state health officials to monitor the situation closely.”

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health recommends the following to prevent colds and the flu and protect against other respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Stay home if you are sick.

For more information on the Coronavirus:

- Massachusetts Department of Public Health <https://www.mass.gov/guides/information-on-the-outbreak-of-2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-updated-as-of-february-1>
- U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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