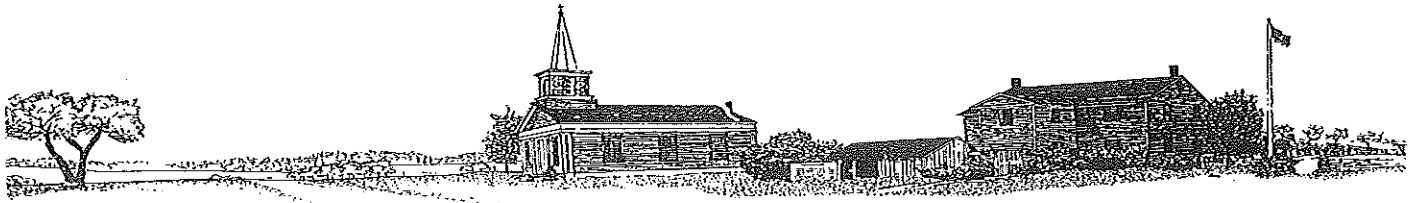


January 30, 2020



Town of Pelham
Town Offices, 351 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002
phone: (413) 253-7129 email: TownofPelham@comcast.net

An important message from the Pelham Selectmen About the National Census

Now is the time to prepare for the 2020 US Census. The US Constitution requires the federal government to count every person living or staying in our country and its territories once every ten years. It is very important, especially for a small town like Pelham, to get an accurate count of all persons in our town as of April 1, 2020. Information collected by the Census form will be turned into census data that affect all of us.

Census data determine the way Federal and State money is allocated to us to provide crucial services within our town and in Western Massachusetts. Some of the areas that affect us directly include:

- Support for our schools
- Support for roads and infrastructure
- Support for services for veterans, seniors, and preschoolers
- Support for public health and conservation programs

Each person missed in the count results in a loss to our area of approximately **\$2, 372.00**. That's a lot of money, and that's why we want to be sure *everyone* in Pelham is counted

In addition, census data determine political representation for the next 10 years at the local, state and federal levels.

The Pelham Select board is working together with the Pelham Library, the Council on Aging, the Pelham Elementary School, and our state representative Mindy Domb, to ensure that all people in Pelham have the information and resources they need to complete the Census questionnaire. We will be co-sponsoring an informational public gathering at the Pelham Elementary School on March 19th from 5:30-7pm to answer questions, and to let people know how they can make sure they are counted. Additional information is also available at the library and the town offices.

April 1, 2020 is census day. Around that time each household in Pelham will receive a communication from the US census bureau that will indicate how to fill out the census questionnaire. It will contain a password for each household so that the questionnaire can be filled out online, as well as information about how to respond by mail or phone. One person will fill out the questionnaire for everyone living in each home. We urge you to fill it out as soon as possible.

If you do not have access to a computer, the Pelham library is planning to schedule times that its computers will be available for your use. There also will be persons trained to help you with the process.

Remember: All information given to the Census is confidential by law. You will not be asked a question about citizenship. You will not be asked for a social security number or for any bank account information.

For further information regarding the census, visit these websites:

2020Census.gov

Pioneer Valley 2020 Census Complete Count Committee: pvpc.org/2020Completecount committee.

Sample Census:

2020 Census 2020 This is the official questionnaire for this address. It is quick and easy to respond, and your answers are protected by law.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Start here: On go online at [url] or call 1-800-433-8847 to complete your 2020 Census questionnaire.

Before you answer Question 1, count the people living in this house, apartment, or mobile home using our guidelines:

- Count all people, including babies, who live and sleep here most of the time.
- If no one here and sleep at this address most of the time, go online at [url] or call the number on page 2.

The Census Bureau also counts people without a permanent place to live:

- If someone who does not have a permanent place to live is staying here on April 1, 2020, count that person.

The Census Bureau also conducts counts in institutions and other places, so:

- Do not count anyone living away from here, either at college or in the Armed Forces.
- Do not count anyone in a nursing home, jail, prison, detention facility, etc. on April 1, 2020.
- Leave these people off your questionnaire, even if they will return to the home after they leave college, the nursing home, the military, etc. Otherwise, they may be counted twice.

1. How many people were living or staying in this house, apartment, or mobile home on April 1, 2020?

Number of people =

2. Were there any additional people staying here on April 1, 2020 that you did not include in Question 1? Mark if that apply.

- Children, grandchildren, or other children
- Relatives, such as nieces, nephews, or cousins
- Nonrelatives, such as roommates or live-in babysitters
- People staying here temporarily
- No additional people

3. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home — Mark ONE box.

- Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? (Include home equity loans)
- Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)?
- Rented?
- Occupied without payment of rent?

4. What is your telephone number? We will only contact you if needed for official Census Bureau business.

Telephone Number:

5. Please provide information for each person living here. If there is someone living here who pays the rent or owns this residence, start by listing him or her as Person 1. If the owner or the person who pays the rent does not live here, start by listing any adult living here as Person 1.

What is Person 1's name? Print name below.

First Name: Last Name(s):

6. What is Person 1's sex? Mark ONE box.

Male Female

7. What is Person 1's age and what is Person 1's date of birth? For babies less than 1 year old, do not write the age in months. Write 0 as the age.

Age on April 1, 2020: years months days Year of birth:

NOTE: Please answer BOTH Question 8 about Hispanic origin and Question 9 about race. For this census, Hispanic origins are not races.

8. Is Person 1 of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- No, not of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, of other Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin — Print, for example, Salvadoran, Dominican, Cuban-born, Guatemalan, Spanish, Ecuadorian, etc.

9. What is Person 1's race? Mark ONE or more boxes AND print origin.

- White — Print, for example, German, Irish, English, Italian, American, Russian, Egyptian, etc.
- Black or African Am. — Print, for example, African American, Jamaican, Haitian, Nigerian, Ethiopian, Somali, etc.
- American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of ovaloid or principal ancestry. For example, Navajo Indian, Chickasaw Indian, Mayan, Aztec, Navajo Village of the Hopi people, Traditional Government, Navajo Tribal Council, etc.
- Chinese
- Japanese
- Other Asian — Print, for example, Pakistani, Cambodian, Hmong, etc.
- Other Pacific Islander — Print, for example, Tongan, Fijian, Marshallese, etc.
- Some other race — Print race or origin.

→ If more people were counted in Question 1 on the front page, continue with Person 2 on the next page.

Support our Pelham community: Be counted.

Sincerely,

Karen Willard-Ribeiro

Karen Willard-Ribeiro

Bob Agolia

Bob Agolia