

Old Saybrook

COVID 19 Community UPDATE #83 – December 10, 2020

COVID-19 Public Health Emergency – TOWN STATUS – RED

The following Community Update is being provided to you from the
Town of Old Saybrook Emergency Operations Center.

The intent of this document is to provide a summary of preparedness, response,
Emergency Protective Measures and other government activities.

Public Safety & Community Information

- The Nation, State, and Town remain under Declared States of Emergency.
- The Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains operational.
- In the past week there have been **32** new CONFIRMED residential cases of COVID-19 in OS.
- Old Saybrook belongs to the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD).
- This includes the Towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Haddam, and Old Saybrook.
- There were also new CONFIRMED cases of COVID-19 in our District over the past week.
- These are the total reported Positive Residential Cases, since March, according to CRAHD:

-	Chester	-	41 Confirmed Cases
-	Clinton	-	255 Confirmed Cases
-	Deep River	-	62 Confirmed Cases
-	Haddam	-	138 Confirmed Cases
-	Old Saybrook	-	165 Confirmed Cases

These numbers DO NOT include any Positive Cases at Convalescent Facilities.

- **Old Saybrook is experiencing a VERY high COVID-19 positivity rate.**
- **We NEED YOUR help to STOP Community Spread of COVID-19. This is serious!**
- Contact Tracing for Old Saybrook has determined that Community Spread **IS** happening at social gatherings. It is **NOT** happening in our schools or restaurants. YOU can make a difference!

Major Deadly Events in American History

1. Galveston Hurricane – 8,000
2. Antietam – 3,600
3. Yesterday – 3,055
4. September 11, 2001 – 2,977
5. Last Thursday – 2,861
6. Last Wednesday – 2,762
7. Last Tuesday – 2,461
8. Last Friday – 2,439
9. Pearl Harbor – 2,403



WEAR A MASK &
AVOID GATHERINGS

Community COVID 19 Testing

- FREE COVID-19 Testing is available 7 days a week from 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM at Saybrook Point!
- No appointments / No fees! Please get tested!
- Testing will be available seven (7) days a week – including weekends!
- The COVID-19 PCR Test is the most reliable test and takes 2-3 days for results to be available.
- The average wait time at the Old Saybrook Testing Site is 2 hours – so please arrive early!
- You may pre-register by using this link:

<https://chc1.quickbase.com/db/bqyhdf4v?a=nwr&nextURLDashboard=%2Fdb%2Fbqyhdez4g%3Fa%3Dshowpage%26pageid%3D101>

- Check out this summary of how many people have received a free COVID 19 Test from CHC!

Deep River – 439

Westbrook – 453

Clinton - 586

Old Saybrook - 1639

- We are pleased to partner with The Community Health Center Inc. who provides this service!
- Thank you to the dedicated CHC Staff for their great work and wonderful service!



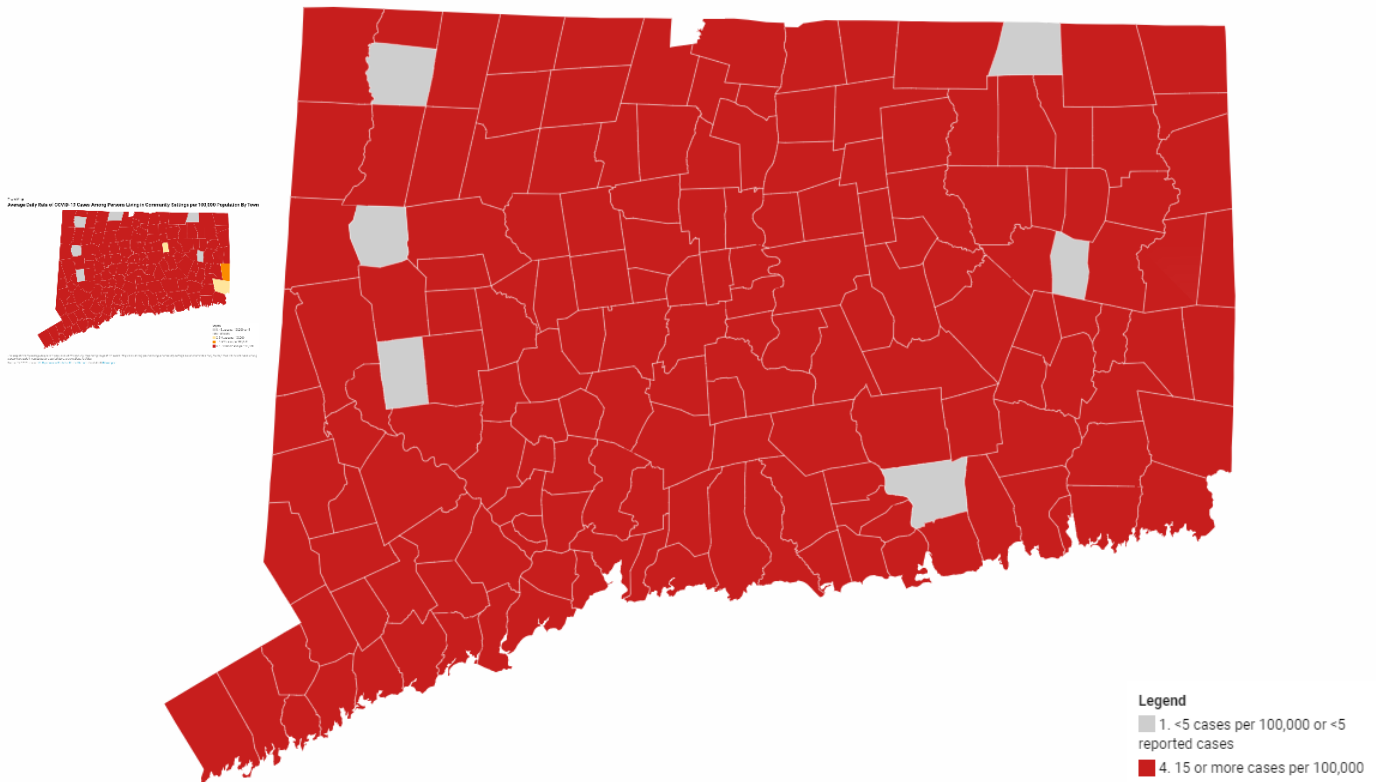
Get PPE for Your Home!

- PPE at Government Pricing! Now available for Old Saybrook residents!
- Your order will be delivered right to your door! Check out www.OldSaybrookPPE.com

State of Connecticut COVID-19 Community Rating System

- The system classifies towns and cities based on 1) population and 2) how many residents have tested positive for COVID-19 on a two week rolling average.
- Communities that have increased positive COVID-19 cases are designated as YELLOW, ORANGE, or RED. The State will make these designations each week at 5 PM.
- This State rating system **does not** impact the status of our public schools.
- No matter what “color” a town or city is, a different rating scale is used by ALL Superintendents of Schools to make decisions concerning in person learning activities.
- Here is the map of the State with the Yellow, Orange, and Red designations as of 5PM today.
- The smaller map on the left is what the state looked like last week.....

Average Daily Rate of COVID-19 Cases Among Persons Living in Community Settings per 100,000 Population By Town



- **Today at 5 PM, Old Saybrook was placed in the RED Category-Again.**
- More than 90 % of Connecticut’s population is in a RED Zone! (This is not good!)

Required Emergency Protective Actions

State Department of Public Health

- The State Department of Public Health maintains increased communication with local authorities.
- Remember the 3 W’s - **W**ear your masks, **W**ash your hands, **W**atch your distance!

- Here is where we stand in Connecticut today:

COVID-19 Daily Summary		
Overall Summary	Total	Change Since Yesterday
COVID Cases	142,979	+2,431
Tests Reported	3,631,852	+36,659
Positivity Rate		6.63%
Currently Hospitalized	1,214	-48
Deaths	5,327	+42

What we NEED YOU to do!

- Wear your mask! Make your friends and family wear their masks!
- It prevents the spread of COVID-19. If we all wear masks, the virus cannot spread.
- Wash your hands! Proper hygiene really works on preventing the spread of the virus!
- DO NOT hold indoor social gatherings with people that do not live with you.
- PLEASE postpone your parties! Social gatherings promote the spread of COVID-19.
- DO NOT attend or host outdoor activities where mask wearing AND social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Think about grocery shopping for your elderly neighbor. Let's keep everyone safe!
- WE MUST reverse the spread of COVID-19.
- WE can do this TOGETHER! Let's keep Old Saybrook Safe!

Local Government

- All indoor activities at Park and Recreation continue to be POSTPONED. Outdoor parks are open! Wear your MASK!
- Follow the Police Department on Instagram! @OldSaybrookPD For the latest news!
- The Public Safety Leadership Team continues to meet regularly with the First Selectman.

Social Services / Youth and Family Services

- Youth and Family Services has transitioned to an all tele-counseling mode.
- For tele-counseling services, please call - 860-395-3190.
- Call 211 for additional resources, in an emergency/crisis call 911 for immediate assistance.
- Keep a positive mindset – We will get through this!! Smile every opportunity you can!

Public School District

PUBLIC SCHOOL STATUS as of 12/10//2020

Old Saybrook Senior High School - On Campus / In Classroom Learning
(One Cohort – Distance Learning)

Old Saybrook Middle School - On Campus / In Classroom Learning
(Three Cohorts – Distance Learning)

Goodwin Elementary School - On Campus / In Classroom Learning
(One Cohort – Distance Learning)

- The Superintendent makes the decision concerning On Campus / In Person Learning vs Distance Learning based on facts concerning positive COVID 19 Cases, Contact Tracing Reports, and Staff Availability.
- If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in one of our schools, it does not mean the entire school must close. Being in cohorts may allow for only one class or only one grade to be impacted.
- The “Red” Status DOES NOT affect the Schools or alter a school schedule.
- The reason that a school moves to online learning may not be because of a COVID-19 “outbreak”, but rather that there are too many faculty members who are classified as a “Direct Contact” of just one positive case and must quarantine – leaving not enough staff to safely open a school “in person”.
- The Superintendent continues to collaborate with Regional Public Health and Town Emergency Management when making these decisions.
- Schools have **NOT** been the source of Community Spread.
- Our schools are one of the only places in our community that model, mandate, and enforce mask wearing and proper hygiene. **If schools are open – they are safe.**

COVID-19 Vaccination

- We are monitoring the Federal and State Government’s Vaccination Plans.
- We will ensure that should the vaccine become available for widespread distribution we will be ready to assist the Regional Health Department with vaccination clinics.
- First doses are scheduled to arrive in Connecticut on 12/14/2020.
- The numbers listed below are in thousands. (31,000 doses will arrive on 12/14)
- The State is following CDC Guidelines to determine who is eligible to receive the vaccine first.
- Phase 1A will be for Healthcare providers (doctors, nurses, CNAs, & EMS Providers).
- We have offered logistical support to assist with Community Mass Vaccination.

Vaccine Schedule

	Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Federal	VRBPAC meeting & expected recommendation	Possible EUA & first shipments		ACIP Issues recommendations		
State	Communications subcommittee meeting	Science subcommittee meeting			Allocation subcommittee confirms 1a roll-out plan	Possible first clinics

VRBPAC = Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee
 ACIP = Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices
 EUA = Emergency Use Authorization

Phase 1a Week 1 Vaccine Distribution



Future phases

Phase 1b

(Mid-January to late May)

- Critical workforce
- Other congregate settings
- Adults 65+
- High risk under 65

Phase 2

(Early June)

- Under 18
- Remaining over 18

Preliminary, subject to Federal guidance

Make a Child's Wish Come True

- This is our last weekend for our Annual Toy Drive – HELP!! - WE NEED TOYS!!
- There are close to 200 hundred families that will need assistance ensuring there is something for their kids this holiday season.
- Pleased donate NEW – UNWRAPPED Toys by dropping them off at the Police Department or at the collection bin located at Wal-Mart. We will be there this weekend!
- For contactless donation services, simply pull into the Police Department and call us!
- We will send someone out to remove you donations from your vehicle.
- Shopping solely on line? Simply dropship your donation to OSPD, 36 Lynde Street!

Old Saybrook C.A.R.E.S.

- Old Saybrook C.A.R.E.S. is the beneficiary of the Old Saybrook Gingerbread House Contest.
- Proceeds from your participation and votes will go directly to helping residents of Old Saybrook most affected by COVID-19. Help spread some holiday cheer!
- If you'd like to enter a Gingerbread House into the contest or for further information, please visit: <https://www.oldsaybrookct.gov/economic-development/pages/os-gingerbread-house-decorating-contest>).
- There is no cost to register for the contest.
- Gingerbread houses will be displayed at Pursuit of Pastry and voting begins December 5th.
- Care to donate? Donations can be mailed to: CARES Committee c/o Town Hall, 302 Main St. Old Saybrook, CT 06475 or via our Website: www.middlesexunitedway.org/oldsaybrookcares.
- The deadline for 2020 Grant Applications is November 30th. Grant application are available at town hall or on our website.

Holiday Greeting Card Program For Seniors

- We are seeking pictures, poems, and holiday cards for our Seniors living at Gladeview and Apple Rehab.
- We will quarantine, sanitize, and laminate each submission and then deliver them!
- You may email your submission or drop them off at the Police Department.
- Email your submissions to fun@OldSaybrookPolice.com

The Great Restaurant Raffle is ON! – ONLY 500 Tickets Left!

- Help support the Chamber of Commerce and our local restaurants!
- Purchase a raffle ticket for \$20 – 1st prize is \$4,200 in restaurant gift cards! Click the link!

<https://greatosraffle.eventgroovefundraising.com/2655da>

Virtual Visit With Santa!

- The Police Department is PROUD to offer individual & private virtual visits with SANTA!!
- Residents may sign up for a specific day/time for a Skype visit with SANTA!
- SANTA visits will be unique to each child! (*name, anything you want us to know...*)
- SANTA visits are available in both English and Spanish!

Register for a virtual visit with SANTA Here:

<https://forms.gle/tJxATVeJn3a3zEM88>

- Once registered we will provide you with a unique Skype Number for SANTA!
- Skype is FREE and can be downloaded here: <https://www.skype.com/en/get-skype/>

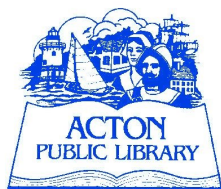
We are Here for YOU!

- Questions? Email us at eoc@oldsaybrookpolice.com
- We will be more than happy to answer them for you.
- Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Keep Smiling. We will get through this TOGETHER!



**ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE TEAM.**

December
2020



Inner Lighthouse, oil and watercolor mural by Robert Childress. Collection of the Acton Public Library.

From the Director: Fun & Games

Staying occupied in the winter can be challenging, but Acton Library is planning a few things that will help! First, have you been trying our Grab N Go crafts? Or the virtual game nights or Trivia or Dungeons and Dragons online? If the online events aren't for you, the library will be starting to lend out games and puzzles! If you are familiar with our various kits (like the *Learn Ukulele* or *How to Press Flowers*) you will be pleasantly surprised with these additions to our collection. We have games like Monopoly, Scrabble, Uno and Jenga. The wide variety and sizes of puzzles will help you stay busy too. Just a few things to note, these items can be taken home for three (3) weeks. Once returned, they will need to be set away in quarantine and then counted by staff to make sure that everything was returned. Since we do not charge fines, please do not be worried if you do not see the item coming off your record for a week. We hope that you enjoy this new collection and if you have some good game suggestions that are good for a wide age range, let Amanda (abrouwer@actonlibrary.org) know!

Amanda Brouwer



Spotlight on: Binge Bundles

We will be creating some movie Binge Bundles! Each of these bundles will contain 3-5 movies, 2 hot chocolates, 1 microwave popcorn and two little candy treats. These bundles will go out for a week and are based on a theme or character. All you do is relax and binge on some great movies! Tell us if you enjoy one!



Main number:
860-395-3184

Reference:
860-510-5072

Website:
www.actonlibrary.org

General email:
actonlibrary@actonlibrary.org

Address:
60 Old Boston Post
Road
Old Saybrook, CT
06475

Acton Public Library

Children's Programs

Daily: Grab 'N Go Crafts: Contact the library to arrange **curbside pickup**

Daily: Grab 'N Go Origami: Contact the library to arrange **curbside pickup**

Fri. Dec. 4 at 10:30 a.m. ABC Amigos **Zoom** ages 2-5

Fri. Dec. 11 & 18 at 10:30 a.m. Rise and Shine Story Time **Zoom** ages 2-5

Sat. Dec. 4 at 11:00 a.m. Food Explorers: Fudge Two Ways **Zoom** ages 8+

Mon. Dec. 7—Sat. Dec. 12 Grab 'N Go Candy Sushi for Kids **curbside pickup** up to Grade 5

Registration is required for all programs.



Young Adult Programs

VIRTUAL Ongoing:

Fridays at 2:45 p.m. Dungeons and Dragons

VIRTUAL Coming up:

Tues. Dec. 8 & at 3:30 p.m. Y.A.L.L Meeting

Wed. Dec. 2 & 16 at 2:45 p.m. Girls Who Code

Thurs. Dec. 10 & 17 at 3:30 p.m. Kahoot!

Tues. Dec. 15 at 2:30 Game Day: Among Us

Mon. Dec. 28 at 4:30 p.m. Mindful Meditations

Registration is required for all programs.



Adult Programs

VIRTUAL

Tues. Dec. 2 at 10:30 a.m. Wed. Book Club

Wed. Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 4:00 p.m. : Game Day

Thurs. Dec. 3, 10 & 17 at 2:00 p.m. : Writing Group

Thurs. Dec. 3 at 6:30 p.m. Genealogy Tips & Tricks with Carol Ansel

Mon. Dec. 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 3:00 p.m. : Coffee and Conversation

Wed. Dec. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Ultimate Pub Trivia

Thurs. Dec. 10 at 10:30 a.m. : Genealogy Interest Group

Thurs. Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. Books on Tap Book Club

Tues. Dec. 15 at 6:00 p.m. Craft Night: Macramé Snowflake

Wed. Dec. 16 at 2:30 p.m. : CompassionKnits

Tues. Dec. 22 at 6:00 p.m. Cookbook Club: Cookie Recipe Exchange

Pickup

Dec. 14—18 Grab & Go Craft: Mini Hat Decoration

Registration is required for all programs.

Kits for Adults

Flower Press
Homeschooling
Needle Felting
Ukulele

Various Book/DVD kits



TOY DRIVE

Please Donate by December 13th



HELP MAKE A CHILD'S
CHRISTMAS WISH COME TRUE.

Sponsored by the Town of Old Saybrook



OLD SAYBROOK YOUTH
& FAMILY SERVICES



Department
of Police
Services

Visit us with a NEW Unwrapped Toy
THIS WEEKEND

We will be at :



Walmart 
Save money. Live better.



Old Saybrook POLICE



VIRTUAL VISITS
WITH
SANTA

Register Today!!

Click This Link To Register

[https://forms.gle/](https://forms.gle/tJxATVeJn3a3zEM88)

[tJxATVeJn3a3zEM88](https://forms.gle/tJxATVeJn3a3zEM88)

or call 860-395-3142

Your Police Department wants to make this Christmas season as "normal" and magical for Old Saybrook's Kids as possible!

With the help of OSPD's Christmas Magic we are proud to offer a fun new way to experience the wonder of a Personalized, Private SANTA visit...VIRTUALLY !!

Right from comfort of your own home, you can schedule a personalized virtual visit with Santa for your Kids!!

No lines - No waiting - NO Masks - just SANTA!!

Register Today!!

Spanish Speaking Santa Visits Available

