Old Saybrook

COVID 19 Community UPDATE #21-2 - January 16, 2021

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.
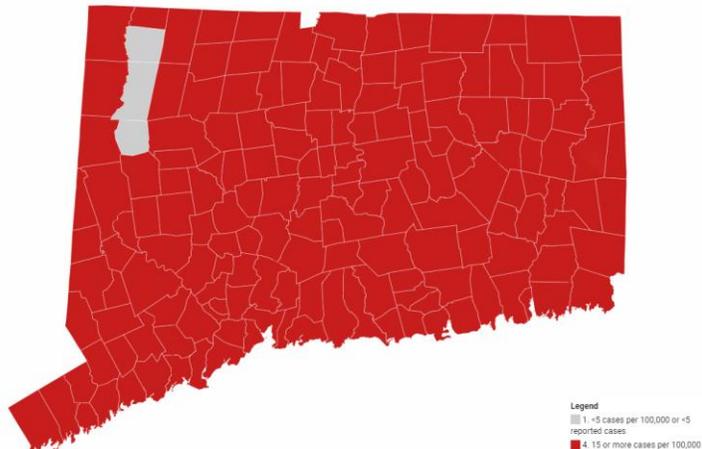
Public Safety & Community Information

■ The Nation, State, and Town remain under Declared States of Emergency.

■ The Town's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) remains operational.

■ Old Saybrook belongs to the Connecticut River Area Health District (CRAHD).

■ This includes the Towns of Chester, Clinton, Deep River, Haddam, and Old Saybrook.

■ These are the total reported Positive Residential Cases, since March, according to CRAHD:

- Chester - 69 Confirmed Cases
- Clinton - 444 Confirmed Cases
- Deep River - 152 Confirmed Cases
- Haddam - 223 Confirmed Cases
- Old Saybrook - 317 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 are in the RED!**

■ **We NEED YOUR help to STOP Community Spread of COVID-19. This is serious!**

■ Contact Tracing shows that transmission is occurring at social gatherings.

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

Legend
1. <5 cases per 100,000 or <5 reported cases
4. 15 or more cases per 100,000

This map shows the average daily rate of new cases of COVID-19 by town during the past two weeks. Only cases among persons living in community settings are included in this map; the map does not include cases among people who reside in nursing home, assisted living, or correctional facilities.
Map: Ver 12.1.2020 • Source: CT Department of Public Health • Get the data • Created with Datawrapper

Community COVID 19 Testing

- Testing is still VERY Important!

- From September 30, 2020 to January 10, 2021 12,583 people have been tested in OS!

- 918 people tested positive during that time – that's a 7.3% positivity rate at this testing site.

- FREE COVID-19 Testing continues each day at Saybrook Point – 9 AM – 4 PM.

- No appointments / No fees! Please get tested!

- 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/bqyhdfe4v?a=nwr&nextURLDashboard=%2Fdb%2Fbqyhdez4g%3Fa%3Dshowpage%26pageid%3D101

- 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!

COVID 19 Vaccination Efforts

- We are SOOOOO happy to report that we have begun vaccination efforts!

- This IS the light at the end of the tunnel!

- The Drive Through Vaccination Clinic in Old Saybrook is run by CRAHD, OSPD, & OS Emergency Management and is located at the OS Middle School.

- To date, Old Saybrook's COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic has vaccinated 1,300 people.

- Vaccinations, in accordance with Public Health Guidelines, were provided to Medical Professionals, First Responders, those living in elderly congregate settings, and educators.

- Vaccinations continue this week **by appointment only**.

- DO NOT come to the middle school to get vaccinated UNLESS you have an appointment.

- Phase 1b will offer the vaccine to over 1.2 million people.

- Currently the State is receiving 44,000 doses of vaccine per week.   (We don't like this math)

- Therefor Phase 1b will be "rolled out" in segments.

- In addition to those 75 and older Phase 1b includes:

Healthcare Personnel not vaccinated in 1a, First responders not vaccinated in 1a, Education, Manufacturing, Grocery/Restaurant/Food Service & Essential Retail, Agriculture & Farm Workers, Delivery Professionals, Public Transit, Social & Governmental Services, Drinking Water/Waste Water & Solid Waste Workers, and Inspectors that work in the locations above.

- Right now the State's focus is on those who are 75 and older – soon it will be 65 and older.

- At the Old Saybrook Vaccination Clinic, we are averaging ten vaccinations every fifteen minutes.

- As we receive additional vaccine we will offer appointments through the VAMS System.

I'm 75 or Older - How Do I Get Vaccinated?

■ There are several ways to schedule an appointment to get vaccinated.

■ Here are the ways….

Through VAMS / Through a Health Care Provider

VAMS

■ VAMS stands for **V**accine **A**dministration **M**anagement **S**ystem.

■ This is the government's preferred method for you to schedule an appointment.

■ To use this method, you MUST create a VAMS Account to get vaccinated.

■ Click this link to create a VAMS Account, then follow the instructions provided.

https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/OnlineVaccine

■ A unique email account for each person registering is required to use the VAMS System.

■ VAMS appointments are only being provided to those 75 and older.

■ When searching for an appointment on VAMS try searching Old Saybrook – We might have open appointments! (Again these appointments are for those 75 or older at this time)

■ We do have a limited amount of VAMS appointment left in Old Saybrook for this coming week.   Keep checking!

SOME VAMS TIPS!

■ **Registering through VAMS is a multi-step process.**

■ There will be up to a 12 hour delay between account verification emails.

■ We have found some of our elderly friends finding the process frustrating and difficult.

■ Offer to help that special 75+ person in your life out! Do this for them!

■ If you are registering for a loved one or friend – create a unique email address for them.   You will need your email address when it is time for you to register for a vaccine in the future!

■ If you are 75 or older and cannot make an appointment using a computer you may do so by phone. Please call 877-918-2224.   This option is available Monday – Friday from 8AM-4PM.

Yale New Haven Health

■ Use this link to search and schedule an appointment through Yale New Haven Health

https://covidvaccine.ynhh.org/

UCONN Health

https://health.uconn.edu/coronavirus/covid-vaccine/

Hartford Health Care

https://hartfordhealthcare.org/health-wellness/coronavirus/vaccine

■ Here is the link to the State's COVID-19 Vaccination Website for additional information.

https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/COVID-19-Vaccination---75-and-older

Wait….Is this the Same Newsletter as Last Night?

■ For the most part – YES!   Sorry, there were some technical difficulties last evening.

■ By the time the issues were resolved with the vendor, we thought it was too late to send out another message. So we freshened it up and are sending it out again! Sorry for the trouble!

Get PPE for Your Home!

■ PPE at Government Pricing!   Now available for Old Saybrook residents!

■ PPE is getting hard to find again – especially at our prices! Stock up now!

■ Your order will be delivered right to your door! Check out www.OldSaybrookPPE.com

Social Services / Youth and Family Services

■ Youth and Family Services is here for you!

■ Times are tough and your emotional health is important!

■ We have many services to offer including tele-counseling.

■ 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!

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

■ Old Saybrook C.A.R.E.S is pleased to announce that we are now accepting NEW **Grant Applications**. Grant applications are available at town hall or on our website. If you are, or anyone you know is, in need due to issues with COVID -19 we encourage you to apply.

■ 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.

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.