

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!



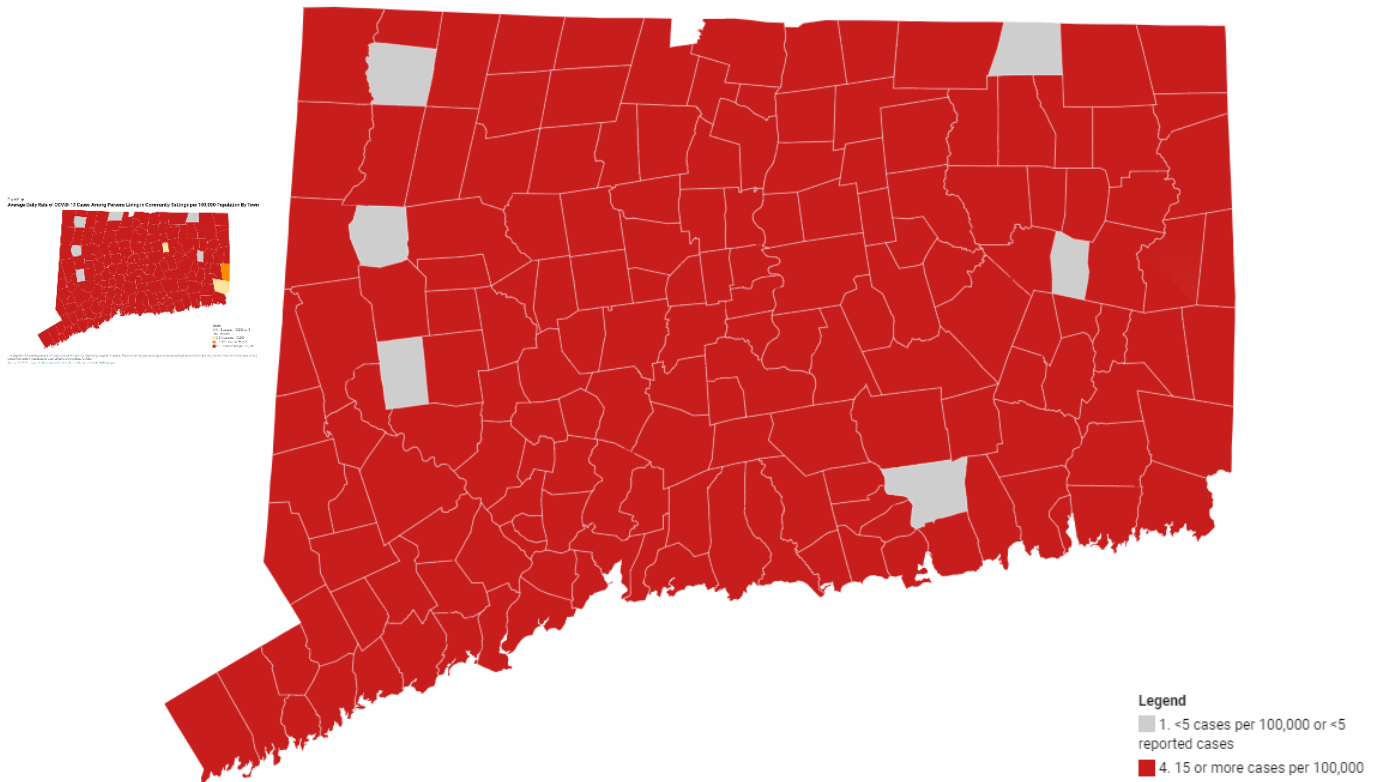
Get PPE for Your Home!

- 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!



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.

The banner features a yellow gift box, a string of colorful lights, a cartoon Mr. Potato Head, and a blue toy car.



**ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE TEAM.**