

Old Saybrook

COVID 19 Community UPDATE #85 – December 24, 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 **25** 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 - 50 Confirmed Cases
 - Clinton - 326 Confirmed Cases
 - Deep River - 105 Confirmed Cases
 - Haddam - 168 Confirmed Cases
 - Old Saybrook - 212 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. PLEASE DO NOT have Large Holiday Gatherings! BE SMART! BE SAFE!

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

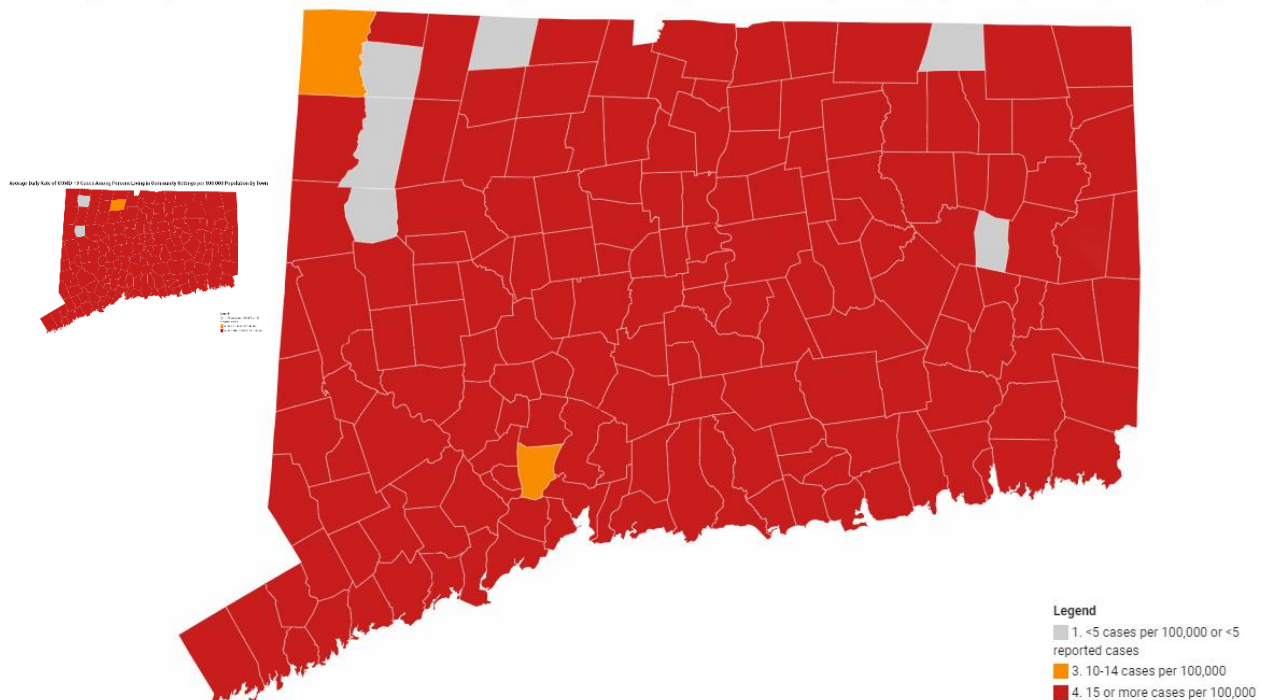
Community COVID 19 Testing

- There will be no testing tomorrow – It's Christmas!!
- FREE COVID-19 Testing resumes on Saturday, December 26, 2020
- There will be NO testing January 1st
- Otherwise, Testing is available 7 days a week from 9 AM – 4:00 PM at Saybrook Point!
- 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/bqyhdf4v?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!

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

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.
- 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!

Social Services / Youth and Family Services

- We know this can be a difficult time of year for many.
- Call 211 for resources, in an emergency/crisis call 911 for immediate assistance.
- Keep a positive mindset – We will get through this!! Smile every opportunity you can!
- Youth and Family Services may be reached during business hours at 860-395-3190

Public School District

PUBLIC SCHOOL STATUS as of 12/24/2020

Closed for the Holiday Break!!!

- Please join us in congratulating our Rams, custodians, nurses, clerical staff, cafeteria workers, paraprofessionals, instructional leaders, support staff, and administrators for an incredible job well done since the opening of school!!
- You have worked so hard, together, to keep everyone safe and in school as much as possible!
- We appreciate your efforts and consistent "Safety First" Mindset.
- Enjoy a well-deserved break Everyone!

Local Government

- Follow the Police Department on Instagram! @OldSaybrookPD For the latest news!
- The Public Safety Leadership Team continues to meet regularly with the First Selectman.
- The Transfer Station will be Closed on Friday and Saturday.

COVID-19 Vaccination

- We are preparing to open a Vaccination Clinic for Phase 1A. (This is exciting news!)
- Phase 1A is for Healthcare Workers and EMS First Responders. (See the Chart Below)
- 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.
- We have procured specialized equipment that will allow us to accept either brand of vaccine.

Group	Phase 1a eligible
Doctors, nurses, and allied healthcare providers seeing patients	Yes
Licensed pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who are working on site in pharmacy or healthcare settings	Yes
Custodial, dietary, administrative & support staff working in patient care settings	Yes
First responders (e.g., police, fire)	Some – if actively responding to medical 911 calls or involved in care for COVID or suspected COVID cases
School nurses	Yes
Home health providers (e.g., PCAs, homemaker companions)	Yes
Dentists, dental hygienists, and other oral health staff	Yes
Laboratory staff	Yes
Students in clinical rotations	Yes
Death care workers entering healthcare settings, homes, or with exposure to decedents	Yes
Clinicians practicing exclusively telehealth	No
Employees of healthcare organizations working away from patient care settings or from home	No

Future phases

<p>Phase 1b (Mid-January to late May)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical workforce Other congregate settings Adults 65+ High risk under 65 	<p>Phase 2 (Early June)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under 18 Remaining over 18
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Preliminary, subject to Federal guidance

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

- Old Saybrook C.A.R.E.S is pleased to announce that we are now accepting **Grant Applications for 2021**. 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.
- 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!
- There is no cost to register for the contest.
- Gingerbread houses will be displayed at Pursuit of Pastry and voting continues!
- 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!
- Merry Christmas Old Saybrook!



**ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE TEAM.**