

Old Saybrook

COVID 19 Community UPDATE #21 – April 5, 2020

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 daily summary of preparedness,
response and other government activities.

Public Safety & Community Information

- The Nation, State, and Town remain under Declared States of Emergency.
- The Town’s Emergency Operation Center (EOC) remains operational.
- There were nine (9) new CONFIRMED cases of COVID-19 today in our Health District.
- 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 current reported Positive Cases according to CRAHD:
 - Chester - 9 Confirmed Cases
 - Clinton - 8 Confirmed Cases 1 Death
 - Deep River - 5 Confirmed Cases
 - Haddam - 3 Confirmed Cases
 - Old Saybrook - 7 Confirmed Cases
- We believe there are an additional ten (10) presumptive positive cases in Old Saybrook.
- Presumptive cases are not always formally tested.
- Public Health Officials advise that Connecticut is entering the peak of the COVID19 Outbreak.
- We CAN protect ourselves from this deadly virus by Social Distancing.
- If you do not need to be out – please stay home. It is seriously safer for you & your family.
- When choosing to “get some fresh air” try to stay home on your own property.
- Limit the people you are interacting with.
- If choosing to take a walk, stay local, stay in very small groups, stay distant, STAY SAFE!
- There are Old Saybrook Residents that have been tested for COVID-19 & are awaiting results.
- We are finding that test results take between three (3) to nine (9) days.

- It is helpful for Public Safety to know if a person in your home, that is not an Old Saybrook Resident, has sadly been diagnosed with COVID-19 (after being tested).
- If you are caring for a COVID-19 Patient in your home, please contact us so we can ensure the proper resources are sent to your home in case of an emergency AND we can keep our First Responders Safe! Call the Police Department at 860-395-3142 or email the Emergency Operations Center at EOC@OldSaybrookPolice.com.
- Information is kept confidential and used ONLY to alert First Responders should we need to respond to your home to provide assistance.
- We are expecting and are prepared for further confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Old Saybrook.
- Social Distancing efforts **ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!!**
- Let's keep our conformed case numbers LOW. We need YOUR help to do so!
- We are doing EVERYTHING we can think of to create a Social Distancing Campaign in OS!
- We need YOUR help and continued COMMITMENT to keep everyone as safe as possible.
- This means – Practice Social Distancing – Shop Alone – Stay home if you don't need to go out.
- The Governor has ordered the suspension of weekend and weekly rentals of homes.
- The Governor has ordered all hotels, motels, and resorts to close for recreational travelers.
- The Governor has ordered the restriction of gatherings to no more than five (5) people.
- There can be more than five people at the beach or in our parks so as long as they are following social distancing recommendations and are not in violation of the Governors Order.
- All grocery stores in Old Saybrook are asking you (begging really) to PLEASE "Shop Alone".
- Stores must limit how many shoppers can be in a store at one time by 50%. It's now the Law.
- Follow the Warning Signs that are placed at the entrances to indoor stores/shops.
- If you have flu like symptoms or have been around someone with flu like symptoms DO NOT ENTER A PUBLIC STORE!
- Public Health Awareness Advertisements are all over town to remind people to: "Wash Their Hands", "Sneeze and Cough in Your Elbow" and to "Maintain Social Distance".

LESS CONTACT = LESS VIRAL INFECTIONS = LESS DEATH

- If you have recently moved your family to Old Saybrook from another location—any location—please consider sheltering in place (self-quarantine) for fourteen (14) days to prevent further community spread.

- With so many second homes in our community, this has become an area of major concern for our Town. Please be respectful – no one wants to get sick.
- Old Saybrook’s First Responders have personal protective equipment, adjusted response guidelines, and open/clear communication – all of which will keep them as safe as possible.
- The Town’s Public Safety Leadership Team met with the First Selectman today. (*Remotely*)
- The Town is very supportive of our local businesses!
- All non-essential businesses are closed to the public as ordered by The Governor.
- Businesses can click the link below for a COVID 19 Business toolkit – updated each day!!
<https://www.oldsaybrookchamber.com/coronavirus-business-toolkit>
- Information for business that are interested in filing for a State Bridge Loan may be found at:
<https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Coronavirus-Business-Recovery/CT-Recovery-Bridge-Loan-Program>
- The Emergency Operations Center is using Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat to connect with residents. Search COVID19OS to find us on your favorite social media platform.
- Over 2,700 people are signed up to receive this newsletter! Make sure your family is!
- Please visit the Emergency Management Website as your sole local online source of all information related to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. <https://www.oldsaybrookct.gov/emergency-management>

Public Health

- It is extremely important that EVERYONE takes this Public Health Emergency seriously!
- DO NOT go out into the public if you have a fever or flu like symptoms.
- DO NOT go into a retail store or restaurant if you have a fever or flu like symptoms.
- COVID-19 is HIGHLY Contagious. If you have flu like symptoms STAY HOME!!
- The CDC has a COVID-19 “Self Checker”.

Click the link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

- **Practice social distancing. Maintain six (6) feet from other people.**

Be smart when outdoors enjoying a park/beach – **Practice Social Distancing.**

Standing in a line is fine – just **Practice Social Distancing.**

Go for a walk - just **Practice Social Distancing.**

- Playscapes will be sanitized three times a week.
- Wash your hands with soap and water frequently for twenty (20) seconds or use at least 60% alcohol based sanitizer.
- YOUR actions can save lives! BE Responsible! SLOW THE SPREAD!

Public School District

- Week three (3) of Distance Learning Begins tomorrow! (*Normal school bedtime kids!*)
- There is no news yet from the State Department of Education or the Governor as to when/if schools will be able to resume normal operations.
- Food distribution for children enrolled in the Old Saybrook Public School District continues tomorrow. Pick up is available from 9-10 AM, each weekday at the Goodwin School and the High School. Meals are free!
- The OSPS website is being updated for parents and students daily.
<https://www.oldsaybrookschoools.org/>

Municipal Government Operations

- Town Government will be OPEN for business tomorrow – by appointment!
- Please contact the Department you wish to do business with.
- For general municipal government needs, please contact the First Selectman’s Office.
860-395-3123.
- Remember to check the Town Website to participate remotely in “public meetings”.
- YOUR actions can help prevent community spread. Please choose to help.

Social Services / Youth and Family Services

- An article for parents discussing on how best to communicate with your children about the National Public Health Emergency is attached.
- Access Health CT has EXTENDED it’s special enrollment period until April 17, 2020. If you are uninsured please use this opportunity to enroll. Go to www.AccessHealthCT.com
- Social Services Appointments will be conducted by phone, Call Sue Consoli 860-395-3188.
- In case of job loss caused by COVID-19 please visit the State’s Department of Labor page at:
<http://www.ctdol.state.ct.us/UI-online/index.htm>
- Youth and Family Services Counselors are now able to provide tele-counseling services.
- For Behavioral Health Support contact Director Heather McNeil 860-510-5042.
- Other services are available by contacting 211.

Good News!!

A NEW CONTEST IS UPON US!

- We are seeking pictures of your animals dressed as Essential Workers – to honor them!
- Store clerks, restaurant workers, mechanics, doctors, police officers, nurses, fire fighters, government leaders, emergency medical service personnel – all that go to work for US!
- Submit your entry to Fun@OldSaybrookPolice.com
- The Contest will run until noon on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.
- The pictures so far are amazing!! Keep them coming!! (It makes us smile too!)
- Yes, your favorite pet will receive a prize along with your family!

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS WEEKEND!

- AGAIN today, thanks to a very generous family, Police Officers were able to spread some cheer AGAIN around town by presenting residents with gift certificates to area businesses.
- Spreading cheer, reducing stress, & supporting businesses at the same time – WIN WIN WIN!
- If you would like to help keep this program going – contact us: EOC@oldsaybrookpolice.com
- Find out how much you might be receiving in a stimulus check – click here for the calculator:

<http://dig.abclocal.go.com/ccg/stimulus-calculator/index.html>

- The GREAT Take Out Give A Way is On!! With the support of the Saybrook Wealth Group and the Chamber of Commerce, the Chamber is giving away ten (10) \$100 Restaurant Gift Certificates (one a day). Click the link for more information.

<https://www.oldsaybrookchamber.com/giveaway>

- Light Up Old Saybrook! Every night at 7 PM - Turn your outside lights on to show support for the “Essential Workers”!
- Got Good News? Send it to us! We’d love to share.
- Be safe. Keep Smiling. We will get through this!



**ONE COMMUNITY.
ONE TEAM.**