MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Hampton COVID-19 Update as of October 23, 2020

East Hampton, CT, October 23, 2020 – According to the most recent information from the Connecticut Department of Public Health and Chatham Health District, East Hampton continues to see new cases of COVID-19 in the last two weeks. Recent numbers indicate the Town saw thirteen new cases bringing the total number of diagnosed COVID-19 cases to 84 since tracking began in March. While it is presumed that many of the earlier cases have recovered over time, these new case numbers show 18 new East Hampton cases in the last month. Fortunately, the Town has seen no additional deaths related to the virus and remains at 3 such losses.

Under the State’s new alert system, East Hampton is at “Yellow Alert,” which is the first level of alert. The Town’s average daily rate of new cases per 100,000 population is 5.6. Chatham Health District continues to report that new cases are linked to an increase in close contacts among people without protective measures. The East Hampton Schools are reporting a few isolated cases, none of which have been traced to in-school activities. Appropriate measures have been implemented in those instances according to policy. Nevertheless, these close contacts and the continued infections demonstrate the need to take protective measures for ourselves and others by adhering to the proper guidelines and quarantine rules while we are out and in social settings. We must remain diligent.

The Health District and the Town remind residents to maintain “social distancing” of at least 6 feet, stay away from larger groups of people, wear a face mask that covers both the mouth and nose whenever possible. When dining out, keep the face mask on except when actively eating or drinking. As restaurants welcome more patrons inside, masks are the easiest way to protect everyone. As always, practice good hand hygiene. Wash hands regularly with soap and water for 20 seconds especially after being in public, sneezing, coughing or nose blowing. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer. Protect others by staying home if you are sick or have traveled to locations identified in the State’s travel advisory, covering coughs and sneezes, and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. Adhering to these measures will keep East Hampton and the surrounding areas out of the “Red” zone with a much higher infection rate.

Residents are also encouraged to consider being tested for COVID-19 even if one has been tested before or little or no symptoms are showing. While a test is a snapshot of one’s status on the day of a test, knowledge is power as we all continue to keep the virus in check in the community. For information about
testing, visit the State’s Coronavirus website at https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/COVID-19-Testing. Also, please call 2-1-1 or visit www.211ct.org to find a testing location near you.

For the most current updates and recommendations regarding COVID-19, visit ct.gov/coronavirus. For general questions, call 2-1-1. For information on Town services, monitor the Town’s website and social media.

The next Town update is scheduled for the week of November 2.
## Connecticut Department of Public Health
### Town-Level COVID Response Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yellow</th>
<th>Orange</th>
<th>Red</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-9 cases per 100k per day</td>
<td>10-14 cases per 100k per day</td>
<td>15+ cases per 100k per day</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DPH Response

**Outreach to Local Health Department**
- Weekly calls with Local Officials
- Issue Public Health Alert

**High-risk individuals should stay home, stay safe**

#### Individuals

- **Masks, distancing, extra precautions for high risk**
- Avoid larger events, limit time with non-family members
- Limit trips outside home, avoid gatherings with non-family members

#### Communities

- **Scale up public awareness, social media**
- Scale back public events
- Cancel public events and limit community gathering points; Reverse 9-1-1

#### Organized Group Activities

- **Move activities outdoors where possible**
- Limit group sizes; Postpone indoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained
- Postpone all indoor activities; Postpone outdoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained

#### Pre K-12 Schools

- **Re-enforce and monitor safety measures with staff, students and families**
- Maximize spacing, mask wearing, ventilation and hygiene to support in-person learning
- In collaboration with Local Health Department and Superintendent, consider more distance learning above 25

#### Business & Sector Rules

- **Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement**
- Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement
- Municipal option to revert to Phase 2

#### Remind Staff to Assess Their Symptoms Daily and Not Report to Work If They Are Ill

CT DPH would like to remind everyone of the 3 W's:
Wear your mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance!