



MEDIA RELEASE

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East Hampton COVID-19 Response Update May 13, 2020

East Hampton, CT, May 13, 2020 – According to the latest information from the Chatham Health District, the Town of East Hampton has increased by two to 37 confirmed cases of COVID-19 disease. No additional deaths attributable to the disease in East Hampton have occurred since last week. Testing of residents remains at a higher level in keeping with the Statewide efforts toward increased testing. Despite higher testing, the number of new cases in the Chatham Health District each day has dropped in the last two weeks from its peak during April. This suggests that the steps we are taking are helping protect our community. As always, residents are reminded to take steps to protect themselves and others by following the recommended and required procedures including the use of cloth masks over their mouth and nose while in public and unable to remain distant from others. There remain many known cases in the region and it is likely that there are other cases in this community and in the surrounding communities that are not showing symptoms or are experiencing mild symptoms.

The Chatham Health District and the Town remind residents to “Stay Safe, Stay Home” and be diligent as they continue to avoid contact with others. 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. To further prevent the spread of COVID-19, use a face mask as required, always maintain “social distancing” of at least 6 feet and stay away from groups of people. Protect others by staying home if you are sick, covering coughs and sneezes and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces. For the most current updates and recommendations, visit ct.gov/coronavirus. For general questions, call 2-1-1.

In the upcoming days, we will be finalizing details related to reopening Town facilities to the public. Please anticipate a staged opening that will involve limited direct access to staff and facilities in initial phases with more access in later steps. It will be some time before groups of people can meet together face to face, which will impact summer programs. As noted before, staff continues to develop plans for safe summer camps and summer education and opening of facilities. As businesses and restaurants begin to plan for opening with new or expanded outside spaces, the Planning and Zoning Commission has already taken steps to streamline the process for getting proper approval in place. The Land Use Department at the Town will be ready to work alongside the Chatham Health District to quickly get businesses ready. As always, residents are encouraged to shop local



whenever possible, which will be even more important as the community moves ahead.

The next Town update is scheduled for Friday, May 15.