MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Hampton COVID-19 Response Update as of July 14, 2020

East Hampton, CT, July 14, 2020 – According to the most recent information from the Chatham Health District, in the last two weeks, one additional case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in East Hampton bringing the total to 50 cases since tracking began in early March. No new deaths attributable to the disease in East Hampton have been reported. As is always the case, it is presumed that many of the historic cases have recovered or are recovering and it is possible for persons with COVID-19 to show little or no symptoms.

Chatham Health District continues to report that community transmission of COVID-19 is low in our area again underscoring the need for the community to ensure that its efforts at self-protection continue as they are being successful. The Health District and the Town remind residents to be diligent as they continue to avoid contact with others, maintain “social distancing” of at least 6 feet, stay away from larger groups of people and wear a face mask. Also, 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, covering coughs and sneezes and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

Testing in Chatham Health District communities continues at a higher rate although it seems to have slowed slightly in the second week of July. To date in July, none of the persons tested for the virus have been shown as positive (the case above was likely identified by testing prior to July 1). CVS continues to maintain a drive through testing site at its East Hampton location and other testing facilities are open in the area. The CVS testing is self-administered at the drive up and only takes a few minutes to complete. Anyone with symptoms is encouraged to be tested. Those wanting a test must register online at CVS.com.

Town Hall remains open to the public for walk in service during standard business hours. Visitors are required to wear a mask and to follow distancing and other protocols while in the facility. Residents are still encouraged to use online or remote options for services to the extent possible and may contact the individual department with questions or to make arrangements. Specific Town department phone numbers may be found on the Town website. The fee for online payments using direct withdrawal from checking or savings accounts is temporarily waived to facilitate use of this option for tax payments. As a reminder, those having difficulty making payments to the Town are encouraged to communicate with the Town regarding those issues.
For three months past the due date (until October 1 for tax bills), a lower interest rate of 0.5% per month applies to any delinquent amount due. After that date, the standard rate of 1.5% per month will be applied retroactively to the original due date. Payments not made online may be mailed to

East Hampton Town Hall  
Attn: Collector of Revenue  
1 Community Drive  
East Hampton CT 06424

or may be placed in the secure drop box located outside the main entrance to the Town Hall.

Some smaller meetings have begun to occur in person at the Town Hall and other facilities. Participants in those meetings are required to follow all the guidelines including masks and distancing. The Town is working on technology that will allow larger meetings to resume where persons will be able to participate via remote connection as well as in the room. In person participation in a meeting will include limited capacity due to space considerations to allow for appropriate distancing.

For the most current updates and recommendations, visit ct.gov/coronavirus. For general questions, call 2-1-1.

The next Town update is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21.