



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

East Hampton COVID-19 Response Update as of July 21, 2020

TOWN COUNCIL

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East Hampton, CT, July 21, 2020 – According to the most recent information from the Chatham Health District, in the last week, two additional cases of COVID-19 were diagnosed in East Hampton bringing the total to 52 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 but, during contact tracing, people who test positive are reporting more contacts with other individuals now than earlier in the pandemic. This fact again underscores the need for the community to ensure that its efforts at self-protection continue. 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 or have traveled to locations identified in the State’s advisory, covering coughs and sneezes and regularly cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

Testing in Chatham Health District communities continues to slow somewhat after peaking in early July. Across the District communities, positive results for COVID-19 remains well below 5% and in East Hampton, less than 1% of those tested are showing positive results. These levels indicate that enough tests are being conducted to identify current cases in the community. Residents meeting any of the testing criteria should not hesitate to be tested. 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](https://www.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.

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 28.