



MEDIA RELEASE

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

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East Hampton, CT, September 23, 2020 – According to the most recent information from the Chatham Health District, East Hampton continues to see new cases of COVID-19 in the last two weeks. As of the report issued Monday, the Town saw four new cases bringing the total number of diagnosed COVID-19 cases to 66 since tracking began in March. It is presumed that many of these persons have recovered over time, especially the earlier cases. The Town has seen no additional deaths related to the virus and remains at 3 such losses.

While the recent increase in the number of cases is disappointing, East Hampton continues to perform well as less than one percent of those tested in September are positive for the virus as compared to the peak rate in April, which exceeded 21 percent. Nevertheless, the continued infections demonstrate the need to take protective measures for ourselves and others by adhering to the proper guidelines and quarantine rules. 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, and 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.

The Town continues to hold some in-person public meetings but physical attendance at these meetings is limited to 25 people including the members and other attendees. Smaller meetings of boards and commissions have occurred via in-person only and require social distancing and mask wearing. Larger meetings, including the Town Council, Planning Commission and Conservation-Lake Commission, will utilize a hybrid approach for their meetings or will hold them entirely online. The hybrid approach will allow the members and some attendees to be in-person but active participation by others will be accommodated using the Town’s Zoom platform. Details are presented on each meeting’s agenda, which is posted on the Town website.

The Town is planning a COVID-sensitive Grand Opening for the new Town Hall on Sunday, October 18 from 2:00p.m. to 4:00p.m. All are invited to the



outdoor ribbon-cutting ceremony, which will be followed by an open house in the Town Hall. Details will be published and posted to the Town's websites and social media as they are finalized.

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 Tuesday, October 6.