

Town of Cornwall



Apart Together

Coronavirus / Covid-19 Update, Vol. 25 **July 23, 2020**

Hello Friends,

Thank you for taking the time to read another Covid19 alert newsletter. I had hoped to be able to stop writing these, but as the pandemic continues to get worse in many parts of the Country and there are always updates coming to my office, I will continue to pass along relevant information.

Residents are reminded to wear masks and practice social distancing. We are concerned when people recreate (especially visitors), and this not being done uniformly. I continue to work on side-issues, such as littering which has increased with people enjoying our river and State forests. I am working with the Town of Kent to reopen Kent Falls State Park for a more organized recreation area. If anyone would like information about working for the Department of Environmental Protection at a nearby State Park please contact our office at cwselectmen@optonline.net . You must be at least 16 years of age.

Another big project has been working with the school on their reopening plans. I have met our new CCS principal Mary Kay Ravenola, and think she will be excellent! The School is having a Zoom meeting for parents, students, and the community on August 5th – details will be posted on the www.CornwallCT.org website.

Elizabeth Ridgway, a nurse at Sharon Hospital E.R. and Cornwall Ambulance Lt. will give a report, “Covid From the Front Line”, this Friday, August 24th at 5:00PM. The link to register for the Zoom event is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZApdOCvqjopGtNBKW6-8RgvhJyYI9uFk6j6?utm_source=Cornwall+Library+Patrons&utm_campaign=a22080141d-ridgway+emt+talk&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5c26c24447-a22080141d-152293453

Diane Beebe and I will join the broadcast from the West Cornwall firehouse, so please watch and ask questions.

Heather Dinneen, Social Service Agent, and her support crew continue to deliver lots of food and necessities to Cornwall people in need. Your donations large and small are most welcome at Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund, Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06796.

Heather's Wish List this week is:

White Rice
Paper Towels
Cooking Oils (Vegetable, Olive, Canola)
Shampoo / Conditioner
Canned tomatoes - whole, crushed, paste, etc.
Kid's snacks and Juice Boxes

Donated items can also be sent to The UCC Church, 10 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall, CT 06753.

Finally, the Torrington Area Health District, the Town's health department, has given us the latest travel advisory:

Domestic Travel

As you may have heard, there are new requirements and enforcement actions for the mandatory self-quarantine for domestic travel from states with high COVID-19 infection levels.

“Affected State”

- The benchmark for identifying these states is a positive test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents or a state with a 10% or higher positivity rate over a 7-day rolling average to self-quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state.
- The current list of states that meet the above criteria is at 31. The list will be updated on a weekly basis.
- The list and a map of the states as well as additional relevant information such as the Executive Order, Travel Form, and Frequently Asked Questions about Connecticut's Travel Policies can be accessed here:
https://portal.ct.gov/Coronavirus/Covid-19-Knowledge-Base/Travel-In-or-Out-of-CT?fbclid=IwAR1l_6pXVzDUeW--NJRCVHyRypYd1SJOUtJpNgpJIWscZbrpzc3_CYFP_iA

“Affected Traveler”

- An affected traveler is defined as a person who has spent 24-hours or longer in an Affected State within 14 days prior to arriving in CT.
- There are exemption for workers traveling from Affected States to CT, however if such worker was in an Affected State for a reason other than Connecticut-related work (e.g., vacation), such worker shall self-quarantine and complete the Travel Health Form even if they are an essential worker unless they were traveling for work related reason.

Travel Health Form

Anyone entering from one of the identified states must fill out a travel health form upon arrival. Travelers can fill out the form online at ct.gov/travelform.

- Affected travelers **prior** to arrival in CT shall complete a Travel Health Form which requires the person to disclose their name, the last Affected State in which such Affected Traveler has spent 24 hours or longer, last date of stay in such Affected State, date of arrival in Connecticut, address of designated self-quarantine location in Connecticut, length of stay, address in home state, cell phone number, contact phone number while in Connecticut, method of travel into Connecticut and information regarding accompanying minors.

Testing Alternative

- Only applicable if the Affected Traveler is unable to self-quarantine (e.g., they are here for a funeral). We have been advised that the testing option is not in lieu of quarantining and only will be approved for situation where it is impossible to self-quarantine.
- Affected Traveler has to have a negative test result for COVID-19 in the 72 hours **prior** to arriving in Connecticut **and** provides written proof to the Commissioner or her designee of such a result.
 - If a test was obtained in the 72 hours prior to travel but the result is still pending at the time of arrival in CT, such Affected Traveler shall remain in self-quarantine in CT until the test result is received and the written results are submitted to the Commissioner or her designee.

Enforcement

- Any Affected Traveler willfully refusing or failing to self-quarantine or complete a Travel Health Form truthfully and accurately shall be subject to a fine up to \$1,000 for each violation (up to \$2,000 per person) imposed by the CT Department of Public Health.

International Travel

While there currently are no *state* restrictions on international travel, the federal government continues to provide international travel recommendations for anyone living inside of the United States. For guidance on international travel, visit the "[COVID-19 Travel Recommendations](#)" section of the CDC's website.

- Rob Rubbo, Director of Health, Torrington Area Health

As people start to move around more it is very important to keep our protections in place. Not taking Covid seriously by disobeying health experts' advice has been aptly compared to drunk driving... it might not kill you, but you could kill someone else.

Thank you for repeatedly doing the right thing. Connecticut has been known as the land of steady habits and it makes a big difference!

Enjoy your Summer and Town.

Sincerely,

Gordon Ridgway
First Selectman
Town of Cornwall, CT