

# TOWN OF CORNWALL

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## Coronavirus / Covid-19 Update Apart Together, Vol. 9 April 6, 2020

Dear Cornwall Friends,

We know the next while will be hard. The infection rates of Covid-19 continue to rise. Metro NY & NJ have positive test and hospitalization rates as high as any region. We continue to be inspired by the bravery and compassion of health care workers on the frontlines.

This is a crisis where we all can affect the outcome. The need for social distancing and careful handwashing is well established. Now we have the advice of public mask wearing, not to protect the wearers but to stop the virus' spread by asymptomatic carriers. Cornwallians have started a cottage mask industry for health care workers. Cay Tyson is coordinating the Town's effort to supply non-medical masks to people in need:

“We REALLY encourage folks to make their own simple cotton mask by following the CDC link (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>), for trips to grocery stores etc. These are to protect possible asymptomatic carriers from sharing the virus with others unknowingly. This does not replace social distancing etc...

Anyone who is making masks for Health Care workers (Sharon Healthcare, local hospitals, VNA, etc...) can drop off masks on North Porch of Town Hall. I am in touch with these organizations and will make collective donations from our town. I check the drop off frequently.

Questions, or if you are unable to make simple cotton masks as recommended by CDC for yourself, you can email me directly at [tysonhouse@optonline.net](mailto:tysonhouse@optonline.net).”

- Cay Tyson

Governor Lamont has recently prohibited short term rentals in hotels or Air BnB's in Connecticut to anyone but healthcare workers and first responders. This is another way to try to stop the virus's spread.

At this important time, I am encouraged by the many ways people in this community are offering mutual support. Among many other residents, a doctor on duty in New York sent a

contribution to the Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund. (Box 97, Cornwall, CT 06753) Volunteers are delivering food and medicine to neighbors. Equipment and meals are being sent to hospital workers. People are checking up on each other. Our Town 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and Officials are on call 24/7. Also, very importantly, almost everyone here is doing simple things to make this situation better!

The Torrington Area Health District maintains a good website with the latest health advice. (<https://www.tahd.org/>) Please call Cornwall Social Services at 860-671-9315 or the Selectmen's Office 860-672-4959 if you need non-medical assistance. Thanks for your help, we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Gordon Ridgway  
First Selectman,  
Town of Cornwall, CT

P.S. – The Board of Selectmen, like most Town Boards is holding its meetings remotely on Zoom.

**Zoom Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/2779770979>

**Dial-in #'s:**

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US

**Meeting ID:** 277 977 0979

Our next meeting is Tuesday at 7:30 PM and you are welcome to watch and comment. The upcoming Town Budget process will also feature a remote access format with the Budget Meeting on April 24 at 7:30 PM. The Zoom contact info will be listed on [www.CornwallCT.org](http://www.CornwallCT.org) and at Town Hall.

CC: Selectman Priscilla Pavel and Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey