



CHESPROCOTT HEALTH DISTRICT

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Maura A. Esposito RS, MPH Director of Health

DATE: March 16, 2020

TO: Residents of Cheshire, Prospect, and Wolcott

FROM: Chesprocott Health District

SUBJECT: COVID-19 (Corona Virus) Update

The Chesprocott Health District (CHD) has been following the COVID-19 (Corona Virus) evolution since December 2019. Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the outbreak a “public health emergency of international concern”.

CHD has been participating in weekly conference calls with the CDC and the State Health Department. During these calls, we are being updated with the most current status of the outbreak and guidance for how to proceed. We are working very closely with Town Officials, School Boards, and community partners almost daily to provide clear guidance on how to handle situations as they come and how to plan.

Here are a few of the current guidance highlights as of 3-16-20:

- Required limit on social and recreational gatherings to 50 people or less
- Restaurants and bars that serve food will temporarily be required to move to take-out and delivery services only. Bars that do not serve food will be required to temporarily close.
- Temporary closure of movie theaters, gyms and fitness centers, and similar public workout facilities and studios.
- Cancellation of classes at all public schools statewide effective March 17 through at least March 31.
- Authorization of the DMV Commissioner to close branches to the public, conduct business remotely, and extend deadlines.
- Restrictions on visitor access to psychiatric facilities and long-term care facilities in order to protect vulnerable residents, patients, and staff.
- Waiving of face-to-face interview requirements for Temporary Family Assistance.
- Authorization from the Commissioner of Early Childhood to waive certain licensing and other requirements to maintain and increase the availability of childcare.

Chesprocott wants to remind you that you play a role in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Changing our behavior is never easy. But keeping more space between yourself and others can help keep disease from spreading.

Please follow these tips to help lessen the impact of COVID-19.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

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- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Stay home if you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Hands should be cleaned after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing

If you do not feel well, please call your medical provider.

Stay healthy and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter: Chesprocott Health District

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