

TOWN OF MONROE Office of the First Selectman

COVID-19 Pandemic Update March 12, 2020

This afternoon, Governor Lamont signed an executive order regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. In a continued effort to slow the transmission of this disease, the Governor's order:

- Prohibits gatherings of 250 people or more anywhere in the state, except for spiritual or worship services.
- Modifies the state law requiring the school year to be 180 days.
- Limits visitors to nursing homes and other long-term care facilities.
- Extends DMV license renewal deadlines.

The evolving COVID-19 pandemic, and its disruption of many activities, impacts everyone. This, along with the uncertainty of the situation, can be stressful and increase anxiety. Please remember that we must all work together as a community, and that these actions are being taken to help slow the spread of illness.

While there are currently no definitive cases of COVID-19 in Monroe, State officials advise that we must assume that community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring in Fairfield County. Based upon this guidance, and the current situation in Monroe:

- The Superintendent of Schools has closed all Monroe public schools tomorrow, March 13, 2020. All after-school activities and events are also cancelled. The Superintendent will send another message to the school community tomorrow regarding school status for next week and beyond.
- We have begun announcing the cancellation or postponement of certain Town-sponsored events and programs based upon the anticipated attendance, venue, and nature of the event. This effort is ongoing.
- Town offices remain open at this time.

The Town of Monroe Emergency Management Team continues to follow our pandemic preparedness and response plan, in concert with guidance from the Center for Disease Control & Prevention ("CDC") and Connecticut Department of Public Health ("DPH").

We will continue to post information and links to official information at <u>www.MonroeCT.org/COVID-19</u>. Residents and business owners with further questions or concerns may contact the Monroe Health Department at 203-452-2818, or call the State of Connecticut's COVID-19 Hotline by calling Infoline at 211 or texting "CTCOVID" to 898211.

Kenneth M. Kellogg First Selectman