



March 10, 2020

Dear Farmington Residents,

In addition to a very active flu season, the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) has been in the news regularly over the past several weeks. Preventative recommendations are the same for both viruses and both can be spread from person-to-person contact.

COVID-19 causes respiratory illness in people with the most common symptoms being fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Since its initial outbreak in China, cases have been confirmed in many countries, including the United States.

We want to assure you that we are monitoring this situation closely, and taking measured, proactive steps to prepare for the potential spread of COVID-19. We have activated our Emergency Management Team and they are meeting on a regular basis to plan for and respond to a potential medical emergency. The Town's emergency personnel are following established protocols to prevent the spread of this illness. The Town is also in regular communication with the Farmington Valley Health District (FVHD), and continuously monitoring guidance and updates from DPH, CDC, and World Health Organization.

The Town will continue to provide updates on COVID-19 on the [Town website](#). This web page will be updated frequently as more information becomes available. Please share this link with friends and family members and check back frequently for updates.

We can all work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The more each individual resident follows the preventative recommendations, the more we will minimize the impact of this illness on ourselves, our friends, and our neighbors. The FVHD protocols for the annual flu season are the same ones currently recommended to address the spread of COVID-19. Take these everyday preventative actions to help stop the spread of germs:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.





- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then dispose of the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid shaking hands; instead wave, touch elbows, or just say hello.

Although we are hoping for the best, the Town of Farmington is proactively planning for a potential spread of COVID-19 and will continue to share updates with the community as this situation evolves. Included below are helpful links for residents regarding COVID-19. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and for your partnership to help keep our community healthy.

Sincerely,

C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair

Kathleen A. Blonski
Town Manager

Below are additional resources to help your family prepare for COVID-19:

- [CDC Coronavirus Web page](#)
- [CDC Factsheet on COVID-19](#)
- [CDC Guidance on Handwashing](#)
- [COVID-19 Update from Farmington Valley Health District \(January 2020\)](#)
- [DPH Coronavirus Web page](#)

