



April 3, 2020

Dear Farmington Residents,

As we continue to see rapid escalation of COVID-19 cases, this week Farmington experienced the first COVID-19 related death of one of our residents. We offer our deepest sympathies with the realization that this will not likely be an isolated incident. This community has been doing an excellent job of working together, supporting each other, and comforting our neighbors during such trying times. Let us continue forward in the same manner.

Guidelines for Grocery Stores

This week Governor Lamont announced "Safe Store Rules" to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among customers and employees, effective April 3, 2020. These rules include social distancing measures, such as capping the store occupancy at 50%, marking six feet on the floor for checkout lines and high traffic areas, and creating one-way aisles to maximize spacing between customers. As a result, Farmington Valley Health District has issued the following guidance for grocery shopping:

- Maintain a six foot distance between you, fellow shoppers, and employees.
- Go shopping alone, one per household, when possible.
- Make a comprehensive list. Avoid shopping for only one thing at a time, and shop for 14 days if possible.
- Wipe down your cart before use.
- Use debit or credit cards to limit exposure to cashiers.
- Use a delivery service.
- Avoid peak shopping times (weekends and 4-6pm during the week).

Preventative Actions and Social Distancing

Everyday preventative actions such as washing your hands, avoiding touching your face, and disinfecting surfaces can help stop the spread of germs. Residents should familiarize themselves with the necessary actions on how to protect themselves and their families and slow the spread of this virus in our community. The following chart outlines the steps you should take, depending on your situation:



DO YOUR PART---SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

<p>I am sick with fever (100.4), cough and / or difficulty breathing</p> <p>Stay HOME- do not leave the home unless to seek medical care (call provider or hospital first before going).</p> <p>Self ISOLATION- stay away from others in the house.</p> <p>Clearance Instructions: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html</p>	<p>I had contact with confirmed case or someone who had symptoms</p> <p>Stay HOME for 14 days and SELF-MONITOR for symptoms.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. check temperature in AM and PM 2. watch for other symptoms 3. if symptoms develop- stay home (see red box) <p>Self-Quarantine: Avoid going out, being in groups</p>	<p>I have no symptoms</p> <p>DO YOUR Part:</p> <p>Practice Social Distancing No groups Keep 6 foot distance</p> <p>Comply with Closures</p> <p>Wash your hands Use hand sanitizer Don't touch your face</p> <p>If symptoms develop- stay home (see red box)</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html</p>
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FVHD Contact FVHD for more information. Call 860-352-2333 or visit www.FVHD.org

Social distancing is a necessary and effective measure to slow the spread of COVID-19. While basketball courts, playscapes, and swing sets have been closed, the Town’s goal is to keep our parks and trails open for **passive recreation**. For this to continue, everyone needs to abide by the rules and maintain six feet between each other at all times and avoid gatherings of more than five people.

Public Hearing on the Town Council Proposed Budget for FY 2020-2021

On Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:05pm the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for FY 2020-2021. Due to COVID-19, this will be held online via zoom webinar. Information on how to access the online meeting is available on the [Town Budget web page](#).

Comments on the budget can be sent to the Town Council until 12:00 noon on April 7, 2020 and are accepted via email to publiccomment@farmington-ct.org or by calling 860-673-8282 and leaving a voicemail. Please provide your name and address when emailing or calling in for public comment. Call-in comments are limited to five minutes.

Residents are encouraged to call the Town Manager’s Office at 860.675.2350 with any questions regarding the public hearing.





Donations

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused international shortages of critical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for our healthcare workers and first responders. While we are continuously working with local, state, and federal officials to obtain additional PPE, please consider donating unused PPE or medical supplies. Items that are needed include: N95 masks, surgical masks, medical face shields or goggles, rubber gloves, Purell hand sanitizer (or equivalent), isolation gowns, and temporal thermometers. To donate supplies, please contact Lt. Pat Buckley at buckleyp@farmington-ct.org or 860-675-2464.

While the Farmington Food Pantry is unable to accept food donations during the COVID-19 pandemic, monetary donations via [paypal](https://www.paypal.com) are accepted to help our community. Additionally, cleaning supplies, wipes, paper towels, toilet paper, or other essential supplies can be donated to families in need. Donations can be left in the shopping cart located outside of the Staples House, 2 Monteith Drive, Farmington.

Through these challenging times, Farmington residents have continuously shown their generosity and resilience. In a recent [blog post](#), Explore Farmington has highlighted some of our "Hometown Heroes" and the amazing things that are being done in our Town.

The Town of Farmington strives to provide timely communications to our business and residents. Please continue to visit our [COVID-19 website](#) for the latest updates and resources to keep our community healthy and safe.

Be assured that we are doing all we can to assist you all. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are in need.

Sincerely,

C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair

Kathleen A. Blonski
Town Manager

