



April 14, 2020

Dear Farmington Residents,

In the approximately one month since modifications have been made to services, education, and everyday life, our community has proven to be flexible, caring, and resilient. As we continue to support each other, we will get through these challenging times together.

The Farmington Valley Health District is continuously monitoring Farmington's statistics, please visit www.fvhd.org for the latest statistics for Farmington and the Farmington Valley.

Farmington Hometown Rally

The Farmington Town Council has asked the various churches in Farmington to ring their church bells **(at 7PM every Friday, beginning April 17th until the pandemic is over)** in recognition of our first responders, health care providers, and all others who are keeping us safe. Residents are encouraged to participate by going outside on their front lawns and clap, ring bells, and cheer to show their thanks and appreciation.

Let's work together, while staying apart, and make some noise to show our support, gratitude, solidarity, and strength!

Extension of Closures, Distancing and Safety Measures

In Executive Order 7X, Governor Lamont announced that schools will be closed through **May 20, 2020** to promote and secure the safety and protection of children in schools from COVID-19. Governor Lamont also extended the closures for restaurant, bars, gyms, movie theaters, shopping malls, and places of public amusement, as well as the social distancing measures and prohibition on social and recreational gatherings of no more than five (5) people to May 20, 2020.

Upcoming Town Council Meetings

Due to COVID-19, upcoming Town Council meetings will be conducted online via zoom webinar. Access information for each meeting will be posted on the Town Council meeting agenda, which is available on the "[Town Council](#)" section of the Town website. To participate, click the hyperlink on the agenda and connect to audio using either your computer speakers or dialing into the number provided on the agenda. If you have already downloaded zoom on your computer, you can also connect to the meeting by entering the meeting ID. Zoom is also available to download on your smart phone in the app store.



The upcoming meeting schedule is as follows:

April 21, 2020 at 7:00 PM- Special Town Council Meeting
April 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM- Regular Town Council Meeting
May 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM- Regular Town Council Meeting

Participants on the zoom meeting are able to give public comment during the public comment portion of the meeting. Residents can also submit public comment to the Town Council until 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting via email at 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 5 minutes.

Crime Update

Unfortunately, even during a pandemic, criminals are very opportunistic and take advantage of vulnerable populations. In order to protect you and your family from scams or criminal activity, we have compiled a list of current schemes related to COVID-19:

- Criminals are reaching out to people through social media, emails, or phone calls as government imposters. In some cases, they try to convince someone that they need to provide money for COVID testing, financial relief, or medical equipment. **It's important to know that the government will not reach out to you this way.**
- There have also been many reports of police impersonators making coronavirus-related traffic stops. These imposters stop vehicles and warn the drivers that they are violating travel restrictions. If the officer who stops you is not wearing an official police uniform, you can always ask to speak with their supervisor. **There are currently no travel restrictions.**
- People who are at home and out of work are vulnerable to work-from-home scams. If someone you don't know contacts you and wants you to urgently pay them in return for a "job," you are dealing with a criminal. **Legitimate recruiters will not ask you to pay them.**
- One of the most lucrative schemes for criminals is offering you an opportunity to invest in a cure or treatment for the virus. The purpose of these get-rich-quick schemes is simply to defraud the investor. **Any offer like this should be treated with extreme caution.**

The Town of Farmington urges you to use extreme caution in online communication. For emails, verify who the sender is-criminals will sometimes



change just one letter in an email address to make it look like one you know. Be very wary of attachments or links; hover your mouse over a link before clicking to see where it's sending you. In general, be suspicious of anyone offering you something that's "too good to be true" or is a secret investment opportunity or medical advice. Seek out legitimate sources of information.

In the last several weeks, the Town of Farmington and surrounding communities continue to have a significant number of unlocked cars entered during the overnight hours. **The Farmington Police Department reminds you to please lock your car.**

Social Distancing

Everyday preventative actions such as washing your hands, avoiding touching your face, and disinfecting surfaces can help stop the spread of germs. Social distancing is also a necessary and effective measure to slow the spread of COVID-19; it helps to "flatten the curve" and reduces the strain on our healthcare system.

Social Distancing is especially important when utilizing the Town's parks and trails. 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, avoid gatherings of more than five people, and wear a face covering when in close proximity to others.

The Town of Farmington strives to provide timely communications to our businesses 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. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you are in need.

Sincerely,

C.J. Thomas
Town Council Chair

Kathleen A. Blonski
Town Manager

