COVID-19 UPDATE:

There are 12 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex.

It is imperative to take social distancing seriously and wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth if you must go out in public or to work. If you are able to stay home, please do so. Please shop alone and be respectful as essential workers in stores & restaurants enforce public health rules.

Last night the governor reported that the number of hospitalizations in Connecticut due to complications caused by the COVID-19 decreased for the second straight day. While this is good news and we all want this to be over, we are not there yet.

Let's look out for one another and take the public health guidance and the governor's executive orders seriously. We will get through this pandemic together.

Stay safe,
Norm

The lights are back! Ivoryton is illuminated to thank all frontline workers and volunteers serving during the pandemic.

Cloth Face Coverings or Masks:

- Wearing of cloth face coverings or masks in public
places is **required** wherever close contact with others is unavoidable. This order is effective as of tonight at 8:00pm **Executive Order 7BB**.

- **CDC: How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering** Cloth face coverings can be made at home using cotton fabric, bandana or a t-shirt.

- Purchase cloth face coverings and masks from local stores or online retailers such as Amazon, Walmart, Staples, or WB Mason. Many online retailers offer face coverings and masks in various colors, patterns, and sizes. [www.antidotegear.com](http://www.antidotegear.com) is a company in Danbury, CT and [www.shopvida.com](http://www.shopvida.com) also sells replacement filters for their masks.

- Essential employees are required to wear masks in the workplace.  [Safe Workplace Rules for Essential Employers](#)

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**Drive-thru COVID-19 Testing:**

- **CVS HEALTH** opened a drive-thru test site on Friday, April 17, 2020 at 60 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT.
  - Eligible Individuals who meet CDC criteria must **pre-register in advance on-line at CVS.com**
  - Results are received within 15-30 minutes. Frequently Asked Questions (**FAQs**) [CVS Health](http://www.cvshealth.com)

- **Yale-New Haven Health** offers drive-thru testing but you must have an order from your healthcare provider to receive the test.

- **Hartford HealthCare** offers drive-thru testing but you must have a referral through the Hartford HealthCare Clinical Command Center. Call 860-972-8100 or toll-free 833-621-0600

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**Connecticut’s Presidential Primary Election Rescheduled to August 11.**  [Click Here](http://www.cnn.com)

**State Launches "Talk it Out" Hotline for Families & Caregivers to Relieve Stress. Call 1-833-258-5011 or [Click Here](http://www.cnn.com)**

**New Assistance Program To Help Taxpayers Subject to Current Department of Revenue Services Collections Matters.**  [Click Here](http://www.cnn.com)
We have gotten numerous complaints about two things:

1. Dogs being off leash in open spaces.
   Dogs must be kept on a leash at all times and under control.
2. Dog poop not being picked up on sidewalks and on the grass in public areas. It is your responsibility to pick up after your pet. Bring poop pouches with you when walking the dog.

The increased amount of dog waste not being picked up in town is unsanitary and unpleasing to everyone. The Animal Control Officer has been empowered to issue fines if she witnesses walkers not picking up after their pet.
Receive alerts about critical community information directly to your cell phone or email. Go to www.essexct.gov and search "Safer Essex" or call 860-760-4340 x112.

**Sign up for Essex News**
Encourage your friends and neighbors to receive this newsletter. Simply send an email request to essexnews@essexct.gov to be added to our distribution list.

**Sign up for Weekly Check-In Call**
Residents age 62+ are encouraged to sign up for a weekly check-in call from a volunteer. Please call Essex Social Services Department at 860-767-4340 x 201.