Dear Friends and Neighbors,

As of today, there are 5 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex. Please continue to protect yourselves by following the guidelines of washing hands, staying home when possible, social distancing, wearing masks in public locations, etc. We are heading into the peak period so it's important that the guidelines are taken seriously.

The CDC has recommended citizens wear masks in public settings and where social distancing is difficult. This means indoor and outdoor settings. Whether going to the grocery store, the gas station, or walking on sidewalks and trails, wear a mask to protect yourself and others. [Click Here](#) for details.

Connecticut Insurance Department Commissioner Andrew N. Mais is calling on insurers to immediately lower personal vehicle premiums and expand commercial hired and non-owned and auto insurance in light of the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Access Health CT](#) is extending the deadline for enrollment to April 17th. The only way to sign up for the extended special enrollment period is by calling 1-855-365-2428. For enrollments between April 3 - April 17, coverage will be effective on May 1.

**Employer Conference Call April 9th at 1pm**

Gov. Lamont is hosting a statewide conference call for employers at 1 pm Thursday, featuring officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration and the departments of Economic and Community Development, Banking, and Insurance. The call will cover topics including the Federal Paycheck Protection Program, Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Grants, Connecticut initiatives to assist businesses and residents, mortgage deferment and assistance, and health insurance grace periods.

[Paycheck Protection Program Recorded Webinar](#) Presented by Economic Innovation Group earlier this week talks about the forgiveable loans available to small business
Yesterday, Governor Lamont signed the 23rd executive order. One of the provisions is ensuring safe workplaces in essential businesses. Safe Workplaces Rules for Essential Employers on its website

Please take a look at the Essexct.gov home page for the 2020-2021 proposed budget, and the modified budget calendar due to COVID-19.

The Essex Town Hall, closed to the public, remains open Monday - Friday, 9-4. Please call 860-767-4340 for assistance.

Stay safe,

Norm

STAY HOME. STOP THE SPREAD. SAVE LIVES.

Shoreline Food Resources Link

Hazard Mitigation Plan

Please Take the Survey

The Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG), with our consultants DEWBERRY Engineers, Inc., is currently updating 15 of our 17 communities' Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans. They are a requirement by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for municipalities to apply for FEMA hazard mitigation grants and must be updated every 5 years to stay eligible for grant funding.

The plans provide an important opportunity for communities to come together and assess their ability to withstand and recover from a natural disaster and prioritize mitigation actions.

CLICK HERE MORE INFO AND THE SURVEY

Town Clerk

Reminder...Dog license renewal month is June, 2020
A reminder will be mailed the end of May, 2020
To register a new dog: Dog License Application

Transfer Station
Closed Friday, Apr 10th in observance of Good Friday.

What do you do with "it"? Reuse, Recycle or Dispose?

In response to a state mandate, the Town of Essex is working to improve its efforts to reduce waste and increase **REUSE & RECYCLING** strategies. Through our Facebook page, [Town of Essex](http://www.essexct.gov), we are spreading the word about responsible recycling.

Why **RECYCLE**?

- Reduces the amount of waste that must be disposed - which means less waste to incinerate or put in landfills
- Prevents or reduces air and water pollution
- Conserves water and precious natural resources

In addition to the typical recyclables, like cardboard and plastic, there are many ways to **REUSE** or **RECYCLE** items that are no longer of use to us in our homes. Reusing or recycling these items can reduce the amount of toxic materials in the trash that is disposed in our state. Some alternatives to disposal that you should think about include:

- Fix it!
- Give it away!
- Donate it!
- Sell it!
- Compost it!

None of these ideas work for your item? Then check out the following links:

- **Guide to Recycling**: Connecticut's universal list of what belongs in your recycling bin and what does not.
- **RecycleCT Wizard**: type in the name of the waste item and the Wizard will tell you how to recycle it or dispose
of it! The Wizard is also located on the Town of Essex website

- **Transfer Station Brochure**: Did you know that the Transfer Station offers free recycling to RESIDENTS for single stream recyclables, electronics, and mattresses? Before tossing your items in the trash check the brochure!
- **Textile Bins at the Transfer Station**: From footwear to linens, a variety of items will be accepted in any condition - 95% of all textiles can be recycled or reused.

Whether you use the Town's Transfer Station for your recycling or you contract a with a waste hauler, learn what you can and cannot recycle. Waste is a terrible thing to mind!! - Recycle!

## 2020 Census

The 2020 Census is happening now. You can complete your questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail.

The 2020 Census will ask a few simple questions about you and everyone who is or will be living with you on April 1, 2020.

For the first time, you can choose to complete the census online, by phone, or by mail. Find out more about each of these methods below:

- [Online Response Guide](#)
- [Phone Response Guide](#)
- [Paper (Mail) Response Guide](#)

Please note that if you are responding online, you must complete the census in one sitting, as you don't have the ability to save your progress. See [the questions the census asks here](#).

If you do not receive an invitation to respond from the Census Bureau, you may respond online or visit our [Contact Us](#) page to call our phone line.


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Encourage your friends and neighbors to receive this newsletter, simply send a request to Essex News at [essexnews@essexct.gov](mailto:essexnews@essexct.gov) to be added to our distribution list.

**Sign up for Safer Essex Emergency Alerts**
Receive alerts about critical community information directly to your cell phone or email. Go to [www.essexct.gov](http://www.essexct.gov) and search "Safer Essex " or