



For Info on COVID-19 Call 211

[Town Website](#)

COVID-19 UPDATE:

There have been 23 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex and one fatality since the beginning of the pandemic.

[Data on nursing homes in Connecticut as of May 27, 2020](#)

[Data on assisted living facilities in Connecticut as of May 28, 2020](#)

Governor Lamont signs 47th executive order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19

Governor Lamont today signed another executive order - the 47th since he enacted the emergency declarations - that builds upon his efforts to encourage mitigation strategies that slow down transmission of the virus. [Executive Order No. 7TT](#) enacts the following provisions:

- Reopening of barbershops and hair salons on June 1: Permits barbershops and hair salons to resume operations on June 1, 2020, provided that they follow [sector rules](#) that have been issued by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development.
- Amended prohibitions on large gatherings: Relaxes the previously enacted limits on large gatherings. Effective June 1, 2020:
 - Limits on all social and recreational gatherings are raised to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors, subject to safety restrictions and existing orders and business sector rules.
 - Limits on all religious, spiritual, and worship gatherings are raised to 25 percent of capacity of the indoor space or a maximum of 100 people, whichever is smaller, and to 150 people for outdoor gatherings, provided in each case that appropriate safety and social distancing measures are employed.

Utility shut-off moratorium for businesses extended through July 1; Residential shut-off moratorium continues for duration of emergency

The Connecticut Public Utility Regulatory Authority (PURA) today announced that the utility shut-off moratorium for non-residential customers in the state will continue through July 1, 2020. The separate utility shut-off moratorium for residential customers remains in place for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency declared by Governor Lamont. Both moratoriums apply to customers of all electric, natural gas, and water utilities regulated by PURA, and prohibit service terminations except in instances of public safety.

In addition, PURA continues to warn customers of a recent uptick in utility-related scams. Customers should always use caution when receiving any solicitation pertaining to their utility bill and are encouraged to call their utility company directly with questions or concerns. Connecticut's regulated electric, natural gas, and water public utility companies are currently not terminating service due to nonpayment for as long as the emergency shut-off moratoriums remain in place.

For more information, [read the press release issued today by PURA](#).

The [Transportation Security Administration](#) has announced new procedures to keep contact to a minimum for both TSA agents and fliers who go through security screening during the coronavirus outbreak.

While air traffic is still low - 230,367 passengers passed through TSA checkpoints on May 20, for example, compared with 2,472,123 passengers the same day in 2019 - the numbers are slowly rising as areas of the country begin to loosen stay-at-home and other restrictions.

TSA expects to have new procedures at airports nationwide by mid-June.

The changes are:

1. To avoid cross-contamination, TSA officials will no longer handle boarding passes. Passengers will touch their own paper or electronic boarding passes to the code reader. They'll also be asked to hold it for the officer to inspect.
2. Food needs to be placed in a clear plastic bag, and taken out of other bags, before being placed in a bin for inspection. The TSA explains: "Food items often trigger an alarm during the screening process; separating the food from the carry-on bag lessens the likelihood that a TSA officer will need to open the carry-on bag and remove the food items for a closer inspection."
3. Passengers are being asked to be extra vigilant about prohibited items. While travelers have long been asked not to bring liquids in quantities greater than 3.4 ounces, the TSA says that it's even more important to follow these guidelines now so officers can "touch the contents inside a carry-on bag much less frequently." If there are prohibited items, passengers may be asked to remove the items themselves and return through security after throwing them out. Up to 12 ounces of hand sanitizer will be permitted through security, but TSA asks that it be removed from carry-on bags before screening.
4. Passengers need to practice [physical distancing](#) whenever possible. There may be markers on the floor indicating appropriate spacing between passengers waiting in line, as well as other ways to assist travelers in physical distancing.

LATEST COVID-19 FACTS

- [COVID-19 Testing Sites Locator](#)
- [COVID-19 Self Checker](#)
- [Center for Disease Control](#)
- [State of CT Coronavirus Information](#)
- [Governor Lamont Frequently Asked Questions](#)

- [Emergency Orders Issued by Governor Lamont](#)

STAY HOME. STOP THE SPREAD. SAVE LIVES.

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 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.

Town of Essex