



## For Info on COVID-19 Call 211

[Town Website](#)

### COVID-19 UPDATE:

There have been [17](#) confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Essex and one coronavirus related death.

The Re-open Essex Advisory Committee has been established and will continue to meet twice a week. They will be disseminating information and providing guidance for our restaurants and other businesses that fall under Phase 1 of Connecticut's re-opening plan.

The governor has stressed that it is up to each individual business owner to make their own decision on whether to open or not during Phase 1. However, if they do make the choice to open then they must follow prescribed rules.

We will get there together, safely.

Norm

### **Governor Lamont Announces Reopen Connecticut Advisory Group to Hold Business Roundtable Thursday at 10AM**

Members of the Public Encouraged to Submit Questions Related to Impact of COVID-19 on Businesses

[Click Here](#) for the full press release.

**Governor Lamont signed another executive order - the 40<sup>th</sup> since he enacted the emergency declarations. [Executive Order No. 7MM](#) enacts the following provisions:**

- Allows municipalities to expedite changes to their zoning rules or other ordinances to expand outdoor dining
- Creates an expedited approval process for restaurants

and other establishments that serve food to get fast-tracked permission to create or expand outdoor dining areas

- Allows other businesses such as retail stores to get fast-tracked permission to sell goods on the sidewalk or in other outdoor areas, including shared spaces or spaces provided by municipalities
- Allows restaurants and other businesses who already have liquor permits to serve alcohol only with food without applying for a separate patio or extension of use permit

*NOTE: A separate executive order will provide for the Phase I reopening of businesses and other activity, including those that are subject to today's order. All of the Phase I reopening activity will be subject to operating rules issued by the Department of Economic and Community Development.*

## **State receives its largest shipment of personal protective equipment to date**

Recently, the State of Connecticut received its single largest shipment of personal protective equipment (PPE) to date in the fight to combat COVID-19. The equipment, which came from suppliers in China, was delivered to the state's commodities warehouse in New Britain. It includes:

- 6 million surgical masks;
- 500,000 protective masks;
- 100,000 surgical gowns; and
- 100,000 temporal thermometers.

The PPE in the process of being sorted and then will be delivered to frontline workers, including first responders, hospital staff, long-term care facility staff, direct care providers, and other people on the front lines.

The state's supply of PPE has been managed in a coordinated effort by the state's unified command structure, which includes several state agencies, and its distribution has been handled by the Connecticut National Guard. As of May 11, the state has delivered 15,186,349 pieces of PPE to those in need, including:

- 5,852,086 surgical masks;
- 956,211 KN95 masks;
- 326,656 N95 masks;
- 448,435 face shields;
- 40,587 surgical gowns;
- 51,248 Tyvek coveralls; and
- 7,511,126 non-sterile gloves.

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

## Free Face Coverings for Essential Small Businesses with Fewer Than 50 Employees

The state is distributing free face coverings to essential small businesses with fewer than 50 employees through a partnership with the Connecticut Business and Industry Association and CONNSTEP. Eligible essential small businesses can request up to two free face coverings per employee by filling out a form available at [ctcovidresponse.org](http://ctcovidresponse.org).

## Updated Nursing Home Visitor Restrictions

The state has updated restrictions on visitation for nursing home residents amid the COVID-19 pandemic, with new standards recognizing the need for residents to hear from loved ones. As of May 9, facilities are now asked to facilitate practical alternatives for communication between residents and their family and other individuals, which can include but not be limited to window visits, virtual visits through digital platforms like FaceTime or Zoom or phone calls; those visits must occur at least weekly. Facilities will contact residents' family, conservators or legal representatives to establish how visits will be provided; they will be for at least 20 minutes.

Perimeter visits, like visiting through a window or social distancing outside, should be planned to preserve facility safety. Facilities without the capacity to provide alternatives for visiting are asked to work with the [Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program](#) to find other solutions.

## Seeking Volunteer Help for Hazardous Waste Collection, Paper Shredding Events

With spring in full bloom, spring cleaning is undoubtedly on many minds, including that of RiverCOG. RiverCOG is seeking volunteers who would be willing to assist at important events like collecting household hazardous waste collection and paper shredding. Anyone who is interested in volunteering is asked to contact RiverCOG leaders. These events are planned around limiting interactions with residents, with volunteers recording resident information - at least four volunteers are required for these events.

Volunteers are needed for:

HHW - Essex - June 20th - 9am to 1pm  
Paper Shredding - Essex - June 27th - 9am to 12 pm  
HHW - Essex - July 11th - 9am to 1pm  
HHW - Essex - August 8th - 9am to 1pm  
Paper Shredding - Essex - September 12th - 9am to 12pm  
HHW - Essex - September 19th - 9am to 1pm  
HHW - Essex - October 31st - 9am to 1pm

If you are interested in helping, please call 860-581-8554 or email [jehlemeyer@rivercog.org](mailto:jehlemeyer@rivercog.org).

## 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](http://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](mailto: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**