



## Town of Cromwell

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October 23, 2020

### Press Release

Office of the Town Manager  
Anthony J. Salvatore

Office of the Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Enza Macri

Dear Cromwell Community,

We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well.

Yesterday, Cromwell was notified by the Department of Public Health that the COVID-19 risk level has been elevated from yellow to orange. This means that the positive COVID-19 cases fall between the range of 10-25 cases per 100,000 residents per day over a 2 week average. An orange risk level indicates that community spread is rising as to be expected in an upsurge or wave in a global pandemic. See the Connecticut Department of Public Health Town-Level COVID Response Framework Chart provided below for more information.

As of yesterday, the Cromwell positive case rate per day over a two week average is at 4.1 persons per its population of approximately 14,000 residents. In addition, Middlesex County's positive case rate per day over a two week average is at 8.5 persons per its population of approximately 163,000 residents. The age range in Cromwell of the majority of the new cases since August 2020 as reported through the Connecticut Electronic Disease Surveillance System (CTEDSS) is ages 16-60. This information is also monitored daily by the Cromwell Health Department as reported through CT Date: [data.ct.gov](https://data.ct.gov).

Due to the increase in positive cases in Cromwell, town and school officials in consultation with the Cromwell Health Department are asking all residents for full cooperation. In order to decrease the cases and keep everyone as safe as possible, we must become more vigilant with implementing the following mitigation strategies. **Please be sure to wear masks/face coverings in public places at all times, respect social distancing guidelines, and take extra precautions if you are at high-risk if you should contract the coronavirus.**

As a community, we must work together to increase public awareness. This includes moving activities to outdoors when possible and minimizing social gatherings.

The school system will continue to reinforce and monitor safety measures with staff, students and families. They will also re-assess strategies to determine appropriate balance of in- person, hybrid and remote learning.

The Local Mitigation Strategies that have been evaluated and reinforced this week are below:

- DECD sectors: Increase communication with all DECD sectors, reinforce sector rules through enforcement by way of communication and education. Review mitigation strategies evaluated and reinforced in establishments and work collaboratively on more conservative and realistic measures to mitigate contributing factors to increased virus transmission.
- Board of Education: CHS moving to hybrid learning beginning Monday, October 26th. Increase and enforce social distancing and assigned seating. No outside use of school facilities. Review, implementation and enforcement of CT SDE Addendum 4.
- Senior Center: Continues to be closed and offers remote programming and continued outreach to the senior community.
- Youth Services: Move to all virtual programming.
- Recreation: Move to additional virtual programming. Enhance social distancing measures for in person programs.
- Library: No additional expansion of programs or hours. Restrict seating. Additional promotion of grab and go (curbside). Free WIFI in parking lot.
- Police Dept.: Increase awareness and enforcement of gathering. Provide enforcement through education.
- General Government: Limit in person meetings and meeting attendance.
- Local Health/Emergency Management: Increase communication with all sectors, contact tracing, increase communication and collaboration with local, regional and state partners. Addition of part-time public health nurse for contact tracing and sector outreach. Enhance testing strategies.
- Community: Promote social distancing. Limit social gatherings. Promote wearing of face coverings. Promote personal hygiene (hand washing). Promote regular testing.

These mitigation strategies are fluid as the status of COVID-19 is ever-changing, and the Town works to keep the residents safe.

For additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Residents, staff and students that are exhibiting any of the above symptoms, or feeling ill, should call their medical provider to report their symptoms and ask about testing prior to seeking in-person care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.







For more information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19, please see:

<https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/COVID-19/Addendum-5-Interim-Guidance-for-Responding-to-COVID-19-Scenarios-in-CT-School-Districts.pdf>

Together, the Town of Cromwell and the Cromwell Public Schools are closely monitoring this situation and working in collaboration with the Department of Public Health. We appreciate all the effort that the community will engage in to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus so that we do not see an additional upsurge in our community. If there are any updates to this situation, we will notify you in a timely manner.



# CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TOWN-LEVEL COVID RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

	<b>Yellow</b> 5-9 cases per 100k per day	<b>Orange</b> 10-14 cases per 100k per day	<b>Red</b> 15+ cases per 100k per day
 DPH Response	Outreach to Local Health Department	<b>ENCOURAGE TESTING FOR ASYMPTOMATIC RESIDENTS</b>	
		Weekly calls with Local Officials	Issue Public Health Alert
 Individuals	Masks, distancing, extra precautions for high risk	Avoid larger events, limit time with non-family members	Limit trips outside home, avoid gatherings with non-family members
 Communities	Scale up public awareness, social media	Scale back public events	Cancel public events and limit community gathering points; Reverse 9-1-1
 Organized Group Activities	Move activities outdoors where possible	Limit group sizes; Postpone indoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained	Postpone all indoor activities; Postpone outdoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained
 Pre K-12 Schools	Re-Enforce and monitor safety measures with staff, students and families	Maximize spacing, mask wearing, ventilation and hygiene to support in-person learning	In collaboration with Local Health Department and Superintendent, consider more distance learning above 25
 Business & Sector Rules	<b>REMIND STAFF TO ASSESS THEIR SYMPTOMS DAILY AND NOT REPORT TO WORK IF THEY ARE ILL</b>		
	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Municipal option to revert to Phase 2



**CT DPH would like to remind everyone of the 3 W's:  
Wear your mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance!**