



TOWN OF MONROE

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

COVID-19 Pandemic Update

March 13, 2020

The Town of Monroe Emergency Management Team continues to meet regularly in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The disruption of many activities, along with the uncertainty of the situation, can be stressful and increase anxiety. Please remember that the actions we are all taking will help to slow the spread of illness.

While there are currently no definitive cases of COVID-19 in Monroe, State officials advise that we must assume that community transmission of COVID-19 is occurring in Fairfield County. Based upon this guidance, the Governor's executive order, and the current situation in Monroe:

- At my request, the Town Council conducted an emergency meeting today and passed a resolution granting authority to execute, amend, and/or terminate any Town contracts that may be necessary and in response to the pandemic. This allows the Town to act swiftly as necessary and prudent to ensure the continued effective and efficient operation of Town affairs and operations.
- Social and recreational events and gatherings of 250 people or more anywhere in the state are prohibited, except for spiritual or worship services, as per the Governor's executive order.
- As announced by our Superintendent of Schools, Monroe schools are closed next week, along with all school activities. A decision regarding the following week will be communicated by Wednesday. As announced yesterday, the Governor's executive order modifies the state law regarding the 180-day school year requirement.
- Starting on Monday, March 16, 2020, all programs, events, and social gatherings at the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library, Senior Center, and Parks and Recreation programs, will be postponed or cancelled until further notice.
- At this time, the Senior Center will remain open to provide routine assistance services.
- The Food Pantry will remain open by appointment only.
- Town Hall will remain open for routine services, however we strongly encourage residents to contact Town departments by phone prior to coming to Town Hall, to determine if assistance can be provided by phone, email, or our website.
- Town boards and commissions may continue to conduct meetings. We are implementing increased capabilities to facilitate remote participation, including the public. Board and commission Chairs may choose to cancel any meetings that are non-essential based upon the criticality and time sensitivity of agenda items.

We will continue to post information and links to official information at www.MonroeCT.org/COVID-19. Residents and business owners with further questions or concerns may contact the Monroe Health Department at 203-452-2818, or call the State of Connecticut's COVID-19 Hotline by calling Infoline at 211 or texting "CTCOVID" to 898211.

I thank our entire Monroe community for working together during these difficult times.

Kenneth M. Kellogg
First Selectman