



TOWN OF MONROE

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

COVID-19 Pandemic Update

May 17, 2020

The State Department of Public Health has reported the total number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Monroe has reached 100. While ongoing increases are to be expected, our case rate – based upon population – continues to indicate that we are ranked right in the middle (currently 89th out of the 169 municipalities) in Connecticut.

With Memorial Day weekend just a week away, many residents are eager to know the status of our Parks & Recreation programs, such as our Summer Fun Days Camp, Webb Mountain Camping, and other summer sports and activities. Our Parks & Recreation Director is working with our Emergency Management Team to evaluate all of these programs in light of the various rules and restrictions provided by the state, some of which was just released a couple of days ago. We will provide further updates as soon as possible.

While we have not yet made a final decision for the entire season, the Wolfe Park Pool will not open while the limits on social gatherings make public use impractical. We are, however, evaluating the ability to provide limited access to the beach at Great Hollow Lake during the upcoming weeks.

Parking at Wolfe Park and Great Hollow Lake will remain restricted to Monroe residents and taxpayers until further notice.

We have been working with local businesses to assist them with the rules for the state's Phase 1 reopening on May 20th; last week I conducted a video meeting with some of the roughly 25 Monroe restaurants that have expressed an interest in providing outdoor dining. Whether going to a retailer, getting a haircut, or getting a bite to eat, please remember that shopping local is another great way to support Monroe.

In closing, whether you are visiting a Monroe business or enjoying the park, please remember that the state rules on social distancing and wearing masks or cloth face coverings in public are still in effect. Please do your part to make Monroe's next step in re-opening safe for everyone.

Thank you, and as always, I wish you good health.

Kenneth M. Kellogg
First Selectman