



Town of Stafford
Connecticut
Office of Selectmen
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To: Stafford Community

From: Mary Mitta, First Selectman
Steven A. Moccio, Superintendent of Schools
James D. Desso, Emergency Management Director

Date: Friday, March 13, 2020

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The health and safety of our community and staff is our top priority. The Town of Stafford, Stafford Public Schools, and Emergency Management Department are working collaboratively, and in conjunction with the North Central District Health Department (NCDHD), to monitor the ever-changing situation, information, and recommendations related to COVID-19. In an abundance of caution and in consultation with the NCDHD Director of Health, to minimize the anticipated spread of COVID-19, Stafford Public Schools will be closing for a minimum of two weeks, effective Monday, March 16, 2020. Additional details will be provided to the school community separately.

Town buildings and schools will be implementing the protocols detailed below, effective Monday, March 16, 2020, until further notice.

Events and Meetings – Per the Governor’s Executive Order, the Town of Stafford will cancel or postpone town sponsored events and meetings where large numbers of people are expected to attend. Determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis for smaller events. Details will be provided by the specific department or area of town government that is coordinating the event.

Community Events – Per the Governor’s Executive Order, public and private gatherings of 250 people or more are prohibited. While not required, organizers of community events where fewer than 250 people are expected to attend, are strongly encouraged to cancel.

Community Use of School Buildings – Due to the closure of Stafford Public Schools, school buildings and facilities will not be available for public or private use.

Community Use of Town Buildings – The Town of Stafford departments, facilities and services will be modified as follows:

- Warren Memorial Town Hall will remain open during regular business hours with precautionary measures in place.
- Stafford Senior / Community Center will be closed to the public until further notice for all activities, programs and meetings. Meals on Wheels will continue with modified procedures, contact (860) 684-3906 or (860) 684-7752 with questions.
- Stafford Public Library will be closed to the public until further notice, effective Monday, March 16, 2020.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title VI provides that “no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.” (42U.S.C. Section 2000d).

Ongoing Services – The Town of Stafford and Stafford Public Schools are actively investigating the necessary steps to continue services to residents and students, such as school breakfast and lunch programs.

Should a resident need assistance from a town or school office, we respectfully request you call or email:

Town of Stafford – (860) 684-1777, staffordtownhall@staffordct.org
Stafford Public Schools – (860) 684-2208, marinelli@stafford.k12.ct.us

We also remind everyone of the general precautions we can all take to reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- **Frequently wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.**
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, etc.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Stay home when you are sick. Do not visit town buildings, schools, or return to work until symptom free for 24-hours.**
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

As information is constantly changing, we refer everyone to The Center for Disease Control (CDC) updates at [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\) Sheet](#) and the Connecticut State Department of Public Health web page entitled [Protecting Connecticut from Coronavirus](#).

We will provide updates as they become available. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work together to keep our community safe and healthy.