

COVID Mass Notification 7-30-21

Good Afternoon, this is First Selectman, Matt Hoey

Consistent with regional & statewide case increases, we have had 19 new confirmed cases since 7/16. Over 20% of those cases were children under 12. To date there have been only 3 “break through” cases for those fully vaccinated, all in one household.

DPH reports that 72% of Guilford’s total population is fully vaccinated. Removing those under 12 results in 82% of those eligible to receive the vaccine are fully vaccinated. For those aged 12-15, 54% are fully vaccinated with 61% with a first dose. For those aged 16-44, 80% are fully vaccinated and 86% with a first dose. For those aged 45-64, 74% are fully vaccinated and 76% have a first dose. For those 65+, over 99% have been fully vaccinated. We continue to have the lowest infection rate amongst our surrounding communities.

According to the CDC, DPH and our Health Director, Sonia Marino, we can safely assume the vast majority of new cases are the Delta variant. Delta is much more contagious & the highest spread & severest outcomes impact those who are not vaccinated. Currently, 18% of eligible Guilford residents have yet to be vaccinated. Un-vaccinated individuals should get vaccinated & continue masking until fully vaccinated. The vaccines are readily available at hundreds of locations across Connecticut and everyone who is eligible should consider receiving the vaccine if they have not done so, already.

Per the Governor’s existing Executive Order, anyone who has not been fully vaccinated for COVID-19 is required to wear a cloth face covering over their nose and mouth when indoors and unable to maintain adequate distance from others.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health announced yesterday that New Haven County has moved into the category of “substantial transmission” of COVID-19 per the CDC classification system. CDC guidance provides that all individuals over the age of 2 years—whether vaccinated or unvaccinated—in counties with substantial transmission of COVID-19 should wear masks in public indoor spaces. This also includes vaccinated family members. The CT DPH strongly recommends that individuals who live in, work in, or are visiting towns located in Hartford, New Haven or New London County follow this recommendation.

Just a reminder that those under 12 still cannot be vaccinated so please continue to protect them & yourself by practicing everyday preventative actions.

Be Safe, stay well & have a great weekend.