



OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN
TOWN OF BROOKFIELD

Friday, April 3rd , 2020

CORONA VIRUS UPDATE #15

To: All residents

From: Steve Dunn, First Selectman

CodeRED RESIDENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

We are establishing a new system that will alert residents via phone, text or email about important issues going on in town. We plan to start with updates on the Corona virus. This will be an opt in system which you can do by phone or by going to the town website and clicking on the CodeRED logo on the bottom of the homepage. You can choose how you wish to be notified and can opt out at any time. We are hoping that many residents choose to opt in to the system.

This system is not the Emergency Reverse 911 system used by the Police department and you will continue to receive notifications from that system in the future.

To opt in via phone send text *brookfieldct* to 99411 on your cell phone and it will prompt you on how to sign up.

We hope to have our first messages sent out starting early next week.

BROOKFIELD HAS 72 CONFIRMED CASES OF COVID-19

This is an increase of 13 since our last report. The State has caught up in reporting and this number represents the last 4 days of reporting.

We caution however that things are changing rapidly and we should not get a sense of false security. We are seeing intra-household transmission but no evidence of community transmission at this time.

Everyone who tests positive with Covid19 MUST self-isolate from family and friends in a separate room and by using a separate bathroom if available. The Virus is widespread enough to consider everyone suspect.

Given there has been household transmission, we would recommend every positive resident self-isolate for a full 14 days. Forget more lenient CDC guidelines for coming off quarantine. Stay safe! Stay home!



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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL ON MONDAY NIGHT APRIL 6th

If you wish to join the meeting, you can do so via computer or via telephone. Instruction on how to do this are on the town website.

STILL RIVER GREENWAY IS CLOSED

One of the barriers got knocked down by the wind and was put up again. We have gotten reports that despite the many signs and barriers, some people are still walking on the Greenway. Please remind anyone you see that it is closed.

FAQ FOR ASSISTANCE FOR RESIDENTS AND SMALL BUSINESS

Senator Murphy has created a FAQ page, which is quite extensive and can be accessed here:

<https://www.murphy.senate.gov/coronavirus>

We would also urge you to go to:

Ct.gov/coronavirus for State of CT programs
CDC.gov for the Center for Disease Control.
Brookfieldct.gov for town related issues

NEW RULES FOR SELF ISOLATION

From Dr. Raymond Sullivan-Director of Public Health:

Those who have tested positive can come off of isolation if:

- 1) They are fever free for three days while off fever reducing medications **AND**
- 2) They are entirely without symptoms of any cough, sneezing or respiratory difficulty for the same three days **AND**
- 3 They have been self-isolated for a minimum of 7 days

BRUSHYARD WILL BE OPEN THIS WEEKEND

Please be sure you keep social distances when bringing your brush. Please stay in your car if there is a line to drop brush.



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TOWN HALL CLOSED UNTIL APRIL 6th

A person who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus was in Town Hall. With an abundance of caution and after discussing with the Director of Public Health, Town Hall is closed to comply with the recommended 14-day isolation period.

We have hired a company to thoroughly clean the building. That is complete. Experts tell us that the virus does not live on surfaces longer than three days. Even though we have been cleaning the building daily, we want to keep our employees and the public safe with this additional cleaning.

Staff will be working from home, but will respond to calls and emails daily. We will bring some staff back to their offices starting April 6 while most will work from home.

BLOOD DRIVE APRIL 7 BROOKFIELD HIGH SCHOOL IS CANCELLED

We will continue to monitor this and we hope to hold this blood drive in the future.

STILL RIVER GREENWAY IS CLOSED

There are too many people using the Greenway to practice safe physical distancing, so we have closed it until further notice. We encourage you, in small family groups, to hike Gurski Farm, Happy Landings, Burr Farm and the Brookfield Open Spaces Legacy properties.

SCHOOLS DONATE SUPPLIES TO TOWN

Working with Superintendent Barile and Rosa Fernandes, Chairman of the Board of Education, and under the guidance and support of the State Commissioner of Education, the school system has donated numerous supplies our first responders need. The town has supplies on order, but some are delayed. We will return the supplies to the schools as soon as possible.

Brookfield is a great town and emergencies like this demonstrate why people love to live here. We take care of our own, work as a team, and fully support our police, fire, EMS and other volunteer groups fully.



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SELF-DISTANCING IS KEY TO STOPPING THE VIRUS

We have to make sure we are doing everything we can as a community to stop this pandemic. We can do that if each one of you, and your families, stays home and is extremely careful in public.

We ask that you do not go to our parks. We need every resident to leave the house only if absolutely necessary, to practice physical distancing at all times, and to wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds.

Remember that a very large percentage of those who have the virus have no symptoms and unwittingly may spread the virus. Here's how you can help your fellow residents, many of whom are in the most vulnerable categories. Treat every encounter as meeting someone with the virus. Only in doing this can we successfully slow the spread of the disease.

When you shop, please do so by yourself, if possible. Do not allow your children to congregate in large groups, attend parties or sleepovers -- any activity that will bring children together.