

Town of Fairfield News

8/19/2021 - Tri-Town Mask Policy

FAIRFIELD, WESTPORT AND EASTON COME TOGETHER IN A REGIONAL APPROACH FOR INDOOR MASK POLICY

The Towns of Fairfield, Westport and Easton are coming together to issue temporary town wide mask policies effective Monday, August 23rd, as a regional response to the spread of the Delta variant. Neighboring cities, Norwalk and Bridgeport already have mask policies in place.

The regional policy requires all residents of these Towns who are over the age of two years, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, wear a mask when indoors in public places. This is supported by the recommendations of the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

First Selectwoman Kupchick said, "Transmission doesn't stop at our borders, and since the Governor has left it up to local authorities rather than a statewide approach, we are forced to look at a regional one". "We expect that the Town of Fairfield will be moved into the State of Connecticut's red category today indicating more average daily positive cases", she continued. "The Fairfield Health Department's contact tracers are interviewing families in which multiple household members, regardless of vaccination status, are testing positive presumably due to the high transmissibility of the predominant Delta variant. This masking policy is temporary, as we will continue to watch the data closely and modify as conditions improve."

First Selectman Marpe remarked, "I am grateful that Westporters recognize the importance of wearing masks and getting vaccinated. It is for our physical and mental health and safety that we remain vigilant, and at the same time, be respectful to others who may have differing opinions. We have come a long way in combatting this virus. While this development may seem like a step backward, it is undoubtedly necessary until the time comes when all have the capacity to be vaccinated and COVID-19 is a more manageable, non-life-threatening virus. We are stronger together."

First Selectman Bindelglass added, "Particularly with school about to get started, we want to make sure that cases do not spike and jeopardize our ability to safely get the kids into their classrooms."

Yesterday, Fairfield County was the fifth county in Connecticut to be moved into the "high transmission" category, the most severe as defined by the CDC. Hospitalizations in Fairfield County are currently at 82.

Town leaders want to remind residents that the most effective way to prevent serious illness and hospitalization is to get vaccinated. The State Department of Public Health reports that the large majority of hospitalizations in Connecticut and around the country are among unvaccinated individuals.

Vaccines are readily available at the major pharmacies and through healthcare systems/providers. Booster shots for immunocompromised individuals are already available now at local pharmacy clinics.

To find a location to get vaccinated nearest you, text your zip code to GETVAX.

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