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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Mayor Rilling Provides Local Update on Coronavirus**

**(Norwalk, Conn.)** - City officials are working closely with partners at the state and federal levels, as well as partners in Norwalk, to monitor and respond to COVID-19, the 2019 novel Coronavirus. Statewide updates can be found online at [ct.gov/coronavirus](https://ct.gov/coronavirus). Mayor Rilling provided the following Norwalk-area specific updates regarding COVID-19 coronavirus as of 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2020:

- Since yesterday, there are 18 new positive cases in Norwalk, bringing the total positive reported cases in Norwalk to 46. There was also one more death reported. Now, three Norwalk residents have died due to coronavirus. In Fairfield County, the number of new positive cases went from 270 to 384. The age and sex of these individuals will not be released. The public is asked to continue to take precautions as community spread is likely happening across the state.
- Norwalk businesses are providing take-out to residents, donating food to first responders, and sharing inspirational messages across social media. Mayor Rilling encourages the community to keep supporting them during these difficult times by ordering food or buying gift cards.
- Many people are home and are going outside more frequently trying to get exercise or enjoy some fresh air while social distancing. Mayor Rilling reminds those who are driving to slow down and watch for pedestrians.
- City officials have been contacting grocery stores and other businesses to ask they reinforce social distancing messaging and manage the people who are entering their stores.
- Due to overwhelming demand for digital access to the Norwalk Public Library, the City purchased additional “online licenses”, which are free to the community. Anyone with a library card can access e-books and more online. Sign up for a library card or learn more at [norwalkpl.org](https://norwalkpl.org).
- The 2020 Census forms are arriving in mailboxes in Norwalk, and can be completed online. The public is reminder the Census Bureau will not send unsolicited emails to request participation in the 2020 Census, and will not ask for: Social Security numbers, bank account or credit card numbers, or money or donations. More information on the Census can be found [here](#).

“As more and more people get tested, the number of positive cases will continue to rise. We all must realize the coronavirus pandemic is going to be with us for a while. I know it can be tough, and people might be going a bit stir crazy, but please continue practicing social distancing,” Mayor Rilling said. “I encourage residents to consider ordering take-out this week. People can also purchase gift cards from your favorite local retailers to use when stores open once again. Small businesses and food service industries are hurting now, and could use our support.”

Members of the public are encouraged to sign-up for the City’s CodeRED Emergency Alert Notification System at [norwalkct.org/codered](https://norwalkct.org/codered).

Updates on City services, hours, and community resources will be routinely published at [norwalkct.org/citynews](https://norwalkct.org/citynews). The latest health updates can be found at [norwalkct.org/coronavirus](https://norwalkct.org/coronavirus).

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