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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 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2020:

- Since yesterday, there are 34 new positive cases in Norwalk, bringing the total positive reported cases in Norwalk to 139. A death of a Norwalk resident was also reported. Now, four Norwalk residents have died as a result of coronavirus. In Fairfield County, the number of new positive cases went from 752 to 908. 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.
- Under the powers of the Civil Preparedness Declaration he signed on March 14, Mayor Rilling has suspended the [Carry-Out Bag Ordinance](#) which restricted the use of single-use plastic bags by retail establishments and instituted a 10-cent charge for paper bags. This ordinance is suspended until further notice.
- Mayor Rilling and his staff continue to work with local grocery stores and retail establishments about enforcing physical distancing guidelines. However, customers must also do their part. Running an errand should not be a family outing. Parking lots are filled, and people are going to stores in large groups. Businesses are implementing measures to help with customer flow and distancing, but if overcrowding continues, capacity limitations may be implemented.
- Local officials, including the Norwalk Police Department, continue to receive calls and reports of groups congregating, mainly young people, at fields and playgrounds, despite these areas being closed. Mayor Rilling has a message for parents - keep your kids home to help save lives.
- With more people taking new measures when shopping, such as wearing latex gloves or facemasks, it is important these materials be discarded properly. It is unacceptable for these materials to be carelessly discarded in parking lots. Fines may result for those seen doing so.

“I am sad to report the death of another resident due to COVID-19. This is someone who by all accounts, if not for this pandemic, would still be alive today. I offer my heartfelt condolences to their family and friends,” Mayor Rilling said. “We know this virus is highly contagious and is spreading across our community. It is infecting people of all ages and backgrounds. This virus does not discriminate with who it infects. Parents must do more to stop their children from congregating with friends. Stores have to enforce physical distancing guidelines. Food establishments need to be mindful of groups when providing delivery and takeout orders. We cannot defeat this virus if we all do not take our actions and behaviors seriously.”

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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