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. Mayor Rilling provided the following Norwalk-area specific updates regarding COVID-19 coronavirus as of 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 27, 2020:

- Since yesterday, there are no new positive cases in Norwalk, with the total positive reported cases remaining at 2,075. There were no new deaths reported.
- Yard Waste Collection has continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. City officials remind residents the final spring collection is next week. During the week of June 29, collections will be for residents with Thursday or Friday City garbage collection. All yard waste must be curbside by 6 a.m. on Monday, June 29, as the truck only passes by once.
- City officials continue to receive reports that families and children are using the playgrounds, despite the area being covered in caution tape. The public is reminded that all playgrounds on City property remain closed to the public at this time. The City plans to reopen certain playgrounds in time for the Fourth of July Holiday weekend. More details will be released early next week.
- On March 28, Mayor Rilling issued an order suspending the Carry-Out Bag Ordinance in Norwalk. That order will expire on June 30, 2020. Businesses should no longer be using plastic bags in Norwalk, and must charge 10-cents for paper bags, beginning July 1, 2020. However, there will be a 30-day grace period on enforcement to allow businesses to use up existing supplies of plastic bags.

“Playgrounds are currently closed because we have not had the supplies to properly disinfect and clean the surfaces, and when families gather to watch their children play, it becomes harder to physically distance. My team and I are working on a plan on how we can safely reopen certain playgrounds in time for the holiday weekend because I know families are looking for more things to do with their youngsters,” said Mayor Rilling. “Early in the pandemic I suspended the plastic bag ordinance as retailers were struggling with paper bag supplies, and it was unclear if COVID-19 was highly transmissible on reusable bags and residents felt uncomfortable using them. We are now at a place where I feel comfortable reinstating the ordinance, but we will continue to watch the health situation closely and make adjustments as-needed.”

Members of the public are encouraged to sign-up for the City’s CodeRED Emergency Alert Notification System at norwalkct.org/codered. Updates on City services, hours, and community resources will be routinely published at norwalkct.org/citynews. The latest health updates can be found at norwalkct.org/coronavirus.

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