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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. Mayor Rilling provided the following Norwalk-area specific updates regarding COVID-19 coronavirus as of 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020:

- Since yesterday, there are no new positive cases in Norwalk, and the total positive reported cases remains 2,164. There were no new deaths reported.
- Free COVID-19 testing will be available tomorrow, August 27, from 9 a.m. 12 p.m. at Meadow Gardens, 49 Meadow Street, in Norwalk. No insurance or other documentation is required. Visit chc1.com for more information on mobile testing sites in the area.
- Norwalk City Hall will reopen to the public by appointments-only on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.
 Appointments can be made online or by phone. Temperature checks and face coverings will be required. Members of the public are encouraged to continue to use many of the online resources available, and work directly with departments. More details will be announced early next week.
- The City of Norwalk's Household Hazardous Waste Day scheduled for Saturday, August 29, 2020 has been canceled due to safety concerns for the public and staff due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Events scheduled for September and October in New Canaan, Westport, and Wilton are still currently moving forward, but may also be canceled or postponed due to COVID-19
- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its COVID-19 testing guidelines to reflect people without symptoms who have been in close contact with a person who has the virus do not need to be tested. However, the CDC guidelines offer discretion to state and local health departments. The Norwalk Health Department disagrees with this change, and encourages those who may have recent or suspected exposure to be tested.

"As we have from the very beginning in Norwalk, we are following guidance from our public health experts, led by the Norwalk Health Department, and letting the science, not politics, inform our decisions. In Norwalk, we will continue to set a good example by wearing our face coverings and listening to the health professionals. I ask residents who may have been exposed to quarantine and get tested," Mayor Rilling said. "We are planning to reopen City Hall on September 8 by appointments-only for those who need to conduct in-person business with City staff. We have been successful in delivering services remotely throughout the pandemic, and finding creative ways, such as the walk-up window, to safely serve the public in-person. We will be watching the situation closely, and will have a zero tolerance policy inside City Hall for anyone who is not wearing a face covering or presenting with COVID symptoms."

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.





