



EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Bringing good health to the towns of Branford, East Haven and North Branford

March 29, 2020

Today, the Connecticut Department of Public Health has confirmed the first positive case of COVID-19 for a North Branford resident. The individual is female and between the age of 60 and 70 years old.

“Positive cases of COVID-19 in North Branford have been expected as community transmission of the virus has been occurring in the area” said Michael Pascucilla, Director of Health for the East Shore District Health Department. The East Shore District Health Department will work with the individual to ensure all appropriate CDC guidance is followed to limit any potential for exposure.

Town Manager Paulhus wants to express that the Town of North Branford’s main objective is to continue to keep residents safe and slow the spread of the virus. He also wants to assure our residents that his leadership staff and all town departments are working with the local public health department, along with state and federal officials. “The single best way to slow the spread is to practice social distancing, and the Town of North Branford is recommending that all individuals both adults and children, stay home and not interact with individuals outside of the household” said Pascucilla. Social distancing is crucial in helping to reduce the spread of the virus and limit the number of people who are infected.

Town Manager Paulhus said, “We must all do our part and follow the recommendations of our health professionals to slow the spread of the virus by staying safe and staying home. These measures will help protect our community against a widespread outbreak.”

Everyone should be taking the everyday preventative actions to help protect themselves, these include:

- Staying home if you are sick except to get medical care.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Washing your hands with soap and water frequently and for at least 20 seconds.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands after.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you do become ill, call your doctor immediate.

COVID-19 is a Novel Coronavirus which first emerged in China in December 2019, and is now considered a global pandemic outbreak. Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Other symptoms may include vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain. For more information, resources, hotlines, testing, and how you can support local businesses while practicing social distancing, please visit: <http://www.esdhd.org/coronavirus>.

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