



CITY OF MERIDEN

COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY – CITY STATUS AS OF 11/5/2020

RED

The following update is being provided by the Meriden Department of Health and Human Services and the City Manager.

OPENING REMARKS

This update is being provided to the City to keep residents updated regarding the current pandemic emergency.

We appreciate all the successful hard work and cooperation that residents have done to date to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus over the summer. Thank you!

As we move into the winter season, as predicted, the spread of the virus HAS increased in the City.

We are committed to providing the latest and best information we can to keep our residents safe.

WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO!

- **WEAR YOUR MASK!** Make your friends and family wear their masks.
 - Masks prevent the spread of COVID-19. If we all wear masks over our nose and mouth, the virus won't spread.
- **WASH YOUR HANDS!** Proper hygiene really works on preventing the spread of the virus.
- **WATCH YOUR DISTANCE!** Pause on having social gatherings. **THEY ARE CONTRIBUTING TO COMMUNITY SPREAD.**

Guidance from CT DPH Public Health Advisory 11/05/2020

- Those over age 60, and anyone with a chronic disease or obesity who are at higher risk for complications of COVID-19 should take extra precautions and limit non-essential trips outside your home;
- Employers should allow work-from-home as much as possible;
- Non-essential social or community gatherings of any size for any reason (e.g., parties, community meetings, celebrations or other social events) must end by 9:30 pm or otherwise be canceled or postponed at this time;

- Everyone must maintain at least a six foot distance from those who do not live with you;
- Everyone must wear a mask whenever you leave home and wear a mask INSIDE your home if someone from outside your household is visiting;
- Everyone should clean their hands frequently using soap and water, hand sanitizer, or isopropyl alcohol wipes. Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds works best. Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands; and
- Families and loved ones should limit visitation to long term care facilities.

This Public Health Advisory shall remain in effect until COVID-19 disease trends move in a more positive direction statewide and in accordance with future governor executive orders or commissioner orders as needed.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- The Nation, State and City remain under Declared States of Emergency
- Over the past 2 weeks (October 18 to October 31) there have been **238** new CONFIRMED cases of COVID-19 in Meriden.
- Meriden's current COVID-19 positivity rate is **4.3%**.
- Meriden's case count per 100k persons is **28.6**.

PHASE 2.1 RULES AS OF 11/6/2020

The following are the MANDATORY state rules that are now in effect state-wide:

Phase Comparisons

Industry	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 2.1 Effective 11/6/20
Restaurants	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 75% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers Max of 8 people/table
Personal Services	Up to 50% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	Up to 75% capacity indoors with 6 ft spacing and/or non-porous barriers	See Phase 3 rules
Libraries	Up to 50% capacity indoors	Up to 75% capacity indoors	See Phase 3 rules
Outdoor Event Venues (e.g. Amphitheaters, Race Tracks)	Up to 25% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 25% with social distancing and masks required
Indoor Performing Arts Theaters	Closed	Up to 50% capacity with 6 ft spacing between parties	Up to 50% capacity with 6 ft spacing between parties, capped at 100 people

Indoor Recreation	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required	Up to 50% with social distancing and masks required, movie theaters and similar entertainment venues capped at 100 people
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Commercial Venue	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 100 people	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 people Outdoor – Cap of 150 people	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 50 people
Private, Social and Recreational Gathering Sizes – Private Residences	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 100 people	Indoor – Cap of 25 people Outdoor – Cap of 150 people	Indoor – Cap of 10 people Outdoor – Cap of 10 people
Graduations	Indoor – Not allowed Outdoor – One time exemption capped at 150 people with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 200 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – See Phase 3 rules
Religious Gatherings	Indoor – Up to 25% capacity capped at 100 people Outdoor – Capped at 150 people	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 200 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – Up to 50% capacity or 6 ft spacing, no capacity limit with masks and social distancing required	Indoor – Up to 50% capacity, capped at 100 with masks and social distancing required Outdoor – See Phase 3 rules

Any events scheduled for the time period of 11/6-11/8 will be permitted to operate under current guidance. Phase 2.1 rules will be enforced as of 12am 11/9/2020.

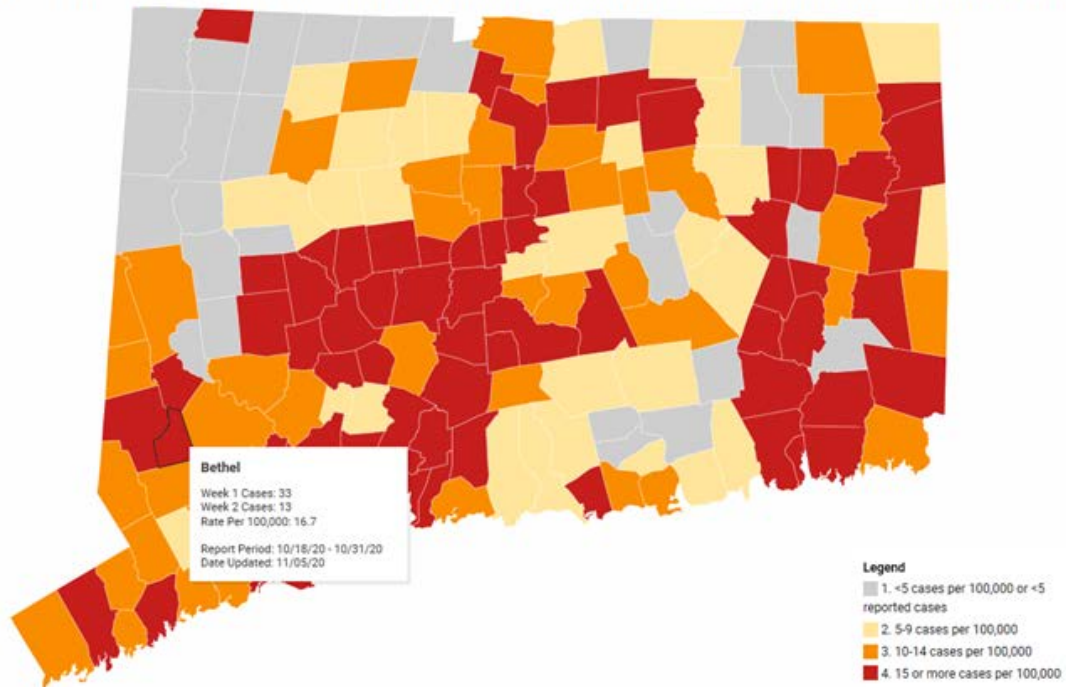
STATE OF CONNECTICUT COMMUNITY RATING SYSTEM

- The State Department of Public Health has created a Community Rating System.
- The system classifies town and cities based on 1) population and 2) how many residents have tested positive for COVID-19 on a two week rolling average.
- Towns and Cities that have increased positive COVID-19 cases are designated as YELLOW, ORANGE or RED.
- The State will make these designations each Thursday at 5 pm.
- WHEN A TOWN OR CITY IS CLASSIFIED A SPECIFIC ACTION IS TAKEN
- This State rating system **does not** impact the status of our public schools.
- No matter what COLOR a town or city is, a different rating scale is used by ALL Superintendents of Schools to make decisions concerning in person learning activities.
- When a community is classified as YELLOW, ORANGE, or RED there are six (6) categories of activities that are reviewed. They are:
 - Local Health Department and State Health Department Response
 - Individual Response (That's YOU!)
 - Community Response
 - Organized Group Activities
 - Pre K-12 Schools
 - Business & Sector Rules

Here is the map of the State with the Yellow, Orange and Red designations as of 11/5/2020

Town Map







Average Daily Rate of COVID-19 Cases Among Persons Living in Community Settings per 100,000 Population By Town



This map shows the average daily rate of new cases of COVID-19 by town during the past two weeks. Only cases among persons living in community settings are included in this map; the map does not include cases among people who reside in nursing home, assisted living, or correctional facilities.

Source: CT DPH - [Get the data](#) - Created with [Datawrapper](#)

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH TOWN LEVEL COVID RESPONSE FRAMEWORK

	Yellow 5-9 cases per 100k per day	Orange 10-14 cases per 100k per day	Red 15+ cases per 100k per day
 DPH Response	Outreach to Local Health Department	ENCOURAGE TESTING FOR ASYMPTOMATIC RESIDENTS	
		Weekly calls with Local Officials	Issue Public Health Alert
 Individuals	Masks, distancing, extra precautions for high risk	HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS SHOULD STAY HOME, STAY SAFE	
		Avoid larger events, limit time with non-family members	Limit trips outside home, avoid gatherings with non-family members
 Communities	Scale up public awareness, social media	Scale back public events	Cancel public events and limit community gathering points; Reverse 9-1-1
 Organized Group Activities	Move activities outdoors where possible	Limit group sizes; Postpone indoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained	Postpone all indoor activities; Postpone outdoor activities where mask wearing or social distancing cannot be maintained
 Pre K-12 Schools	Re-Enforce and monitor safety measures with staff, students and families	Maximize spacing, mask wearing, ventilation and hygiene to support in-person learning	In collaboration with Local Health Department and Superintendent, consider more distance learning above 25
 Business & Sector Rules	REMIND STAFF TO ASSESS THEIR SYMPTOMS DAILY AND NOT REPORT TO WORK IF THEY ARE ILL		
	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Phase 3 with enhanced enforcement	Municipal option to revert to Phase 2



**CT DPH would like to remind everyone of the 3 W's:
Wear your mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance!**

MERIDEN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

PUBLIC SCHOOL STATUS as of 11/6/2020

High Schools – Platt, Maloney	-	Collegiate Hybrid Model, students attend every other day
Middle Schools – Lincoln and Washington	-	All in person, cohorted by class
Elementary Schools	-	All in person, cohorted by class

- The Superintendent makes the decision concerning On Campus/In-Person learning vs Distance Learning based on facts concerning positive COVID-19 cases, contact tracing reports and staff availability.
- If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in one of our schools, it does not mean the entire school must close. Being in cohorts may allow for only one class or only one grade to be impacted.
- The Superintendent coordinates with the City Department of Health and Human Services when making these decisions.
- Schools have not been the source of community spread.
- In fact our schools are one of the places in our community that model, mandate, and enforce mask wearing and proper hygiene. If schools are open-they are safe.
- Parents always have the option to choose distance learning if so desired.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

- **CHANGE FROM ORANGE STATUS:** All City facilities used for recreational purposes or for other events will be governed by the State Phase 2.1 rules and State DECD Sector rules as applicable.
- City Hall remains open.
- Some departments require appointments, so please call ahead.
- We encourage you to do as much business with the City remotely if possible.
- Masks are required to conduct business in person.
- City meetings are still being held, most are virtual. Please check the City website to determine exactly how a particular meeting will be held. <https://www.meridenct.gov/>