



TOWN OF MONROE

OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN

COVID-19 Pandemic Update December 24, 2020

- Although still high, it appears that infection rates in Connecticut – and Monroe – stabilized this past week. Monroe's case rate for the previous 2-week period dropped from an average of 8, to just under 7, new cases per day.
- Our 2-week case rate is now 35.6 cases per 100,000 population.
- As of today, Monroe has a total of 647 cases (confirmed and probable since the beginning of the pandemic).
- Vaccination efforts continue to focus on healthcare personnel, including our medical first responders. While the State has not yet established firm dates for vaccine availability for the general public, we are in frequent communication with state officials and continue to plan for efforts here and in our region once vaccine supplies increase.
- Our Superintendent of Schools has announced that Monroe Public Schools will remain in full remote learning mode through January 8th.
- Links to find COVID-19 testing locations in our area can be found at www.MonroeCT.org/COVID-19.

HIGH WIND WARNING THROUGH 12/25 AT 10:00 AM

- Once again, the Town is preparing for a significant weather event. Heavy rain and high winds are expected tonight, with the peak winds during the overnight hours and the potential for gusts over 50 mph. While it appears that the strongest winds will be on the coast, Eversource has advised to anticipate power outages that could total up to 30% statewide.

LOWER INTEREST PROGRAM RE-INSTATED FOR JANUARY 1ST TAX BILLS

- The Town of Monroe has adopted a Lower Interest Program, pursuant to Executive Orders of the Governor, for the January installment of your property tax bill. With this program:
 - Monroe real estate, motor vehicle, and personal property taxes due on Jan 1, 2021 will have a one-month grace period for payment, at zero interest, through February 1, 2021.
 - Any payments not made by February 1, 2021 will be subject to only one-quarter of one percent (0.25%) interest per month instead of the usual, statutory 1½ percent (1.50%) per month.
 - On April 1, 2021, any outstanding taxes must revert to the normal statutory rate, retroactive to January 1, 2021, as per the Governor's executive order.
 - While landlords are required to submit documentation that they provided rent forbearance to their tenants or lessees, other taxpayers are not required to submit any documentation to be eligible for the program.
 - Tax payments that are escrowed by a financial institution or mortgage servicer are not eligible for the program so long as the mortgage payments are current or the borrower is in a forbearance or deferment program.
 - For more information on your tax payments, please contact the Tax Collector's Office at 203-452-2804.

Please take the safety of your family and our entire community into consideration as you celebrate during this time of year. I wish everyone a very safe, healthy, and happy holiday.

Kenneth M. Kellogg
First Selectman