



Town of New Castle, NH
Settled 1623
Incorporated 1693

November 20, 2020

Town Health officer update:

Cases are surging nationwide and statewide at an unprecedented rate. Many of the newest cases are in Rockingham County. There were 529 new coronavirus cases reported in NH Thursday, the state's highest total to date.

Though our town still has relatively few cases, they can increase very quickly. The state percentage rate has increased to over 4%. Below are updates to assist with staying safe and healthy. Please follow them.

1) Governor Sununu has issued a **statewide mask mandate** for everyone age 5 and older effective at 12:01 am today, November 20 through January 15, 2021.

Beginning on November 20, 2020, all persons over the age of 5 within the State of New Hampshire shall wear a mask or cloth face covering over their noses and mouths any time they are in public spaces, indoors or outdoors, where they are unable to or do not consistently maintain a physical distance of at least six feet from persons outside their own households.

For purposes of this Order, the term "public spaces" includes any part of private or public property that is generally open or accessible to members of the general public.

For more details go to:

<https://www.governor.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt336/files/documents/emergency-order-74.pdf>

2) The CDC has issued a strong recommendation that people not travel in any form for Thanksgiving and that people only celebrate with individuals who normally reside in/ share their home. For more details go to:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>

3) Please remember the basic steps one can take to stay safe in everyday life.

The Town of New Castle Health Department and Select Board urges all New Castle residents to follow these scientifically-based recommendations on a consistent and daily basis in all settings, including when interacting with people outside of their immediate household such as small family/friend gatherings (which should be limited and held outdoors):

- 1) To universally wear masks
- 2) Maintain physical distancing of at least 6 feet
- 3) Avoid congregate settings or crowds
- 4) Do more outdoors, as opposed to indoors
- 5) Wash hands frequently. *
- 6) Please get your flu shot

*Wash for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or with an alcohol based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

4) If you wish to volunteer to help with the COVID crisis, you may visit these websites to participate in a coordinated effort:

www.seacoastphn.org

www.nhresponds.org

Thank you for all that you are doing to stay safe and to keep others safe and healthy.

Yours In Health,

Kathy Hollister, MD