



EAST SHORE DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Bringing good health to the towns of Branford, East Haven and North Branford

August 12, 2021

Press Release: The East Shore District Health Department and Member Towns, Branford, East Haven and North Branford Strongly Recommend Indoor Masks

The virus infection case increase, the influx of the Delta variant of SARS-CoV2 (Covid-19) and the lower-than-expected vaccination rates has become the perfect storm for transmission of Covid-19.

The East Shore District Health Department and their member towns of Branford, East Haven and North Branford **strongly recommend** people wear masks when indoors at all public places regardless of vaccination status. Recently the increase in Covid transmission has resulted in local, community case increases by 2-3 times in a matter of two weeks. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recently classified New Haven County as “substantial” for the level of community transmission.

Masks continue to provide a significant level of protection from the transmission of this highly infectious virus variant. It is important for the public to understand that while indoors, in public settings, the vaccination and health status of other people are unknown. With that uncertainty, people need to protect themselves and their families by wearing a mask and getting vaccinated if they have not done so already.

The Delta variant is now reported to be responsible for 80%-90% of the positive Covid-19 cases in our State. This variation of the Covid virus is 2 to 3 times more contagious and makes people sicker faster. When infected, both vaccinated and unvaccinated people can carry more of this virus than the original virus (variant). Being vaccinated and wearing a mask remains the best protection one has from becoming infected and passing the virus on to others.

The Health Department remains undeterred in its vaccination efforts, making the vaccines available at many different venues in the three towns. For more information about the vaccinations or to make an appointment please call (203) 481-4233 ext. 580 or go to the Health Department website at www.esdhd.org.

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