



Keith Chapman
Town Manager

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 Garfield Street Newington, Connecticut 06111

Office of Emergency Management

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

COVID-19 Transmission Reduction Plan for Town Buildings



Meghan L. Manke
Emergency Management
Director

Background Information:

As positivity rates continue to fluctuate, the transmission reduction plans for town buildings will be implemented systematically and in Phases. This approach will help ensure continuity of services, with limited interruption and disturbance should we need to revert to or advance between Phases, as well as to ensure the ongoing health and safety of both the public and our employees. The attached graphic outlines the policies that will apply across each Phase.

Plans are subject to change, and will be updated and reviewed as needed by Emergency Management, in coordination with the Town Manager and the Central Connecticut Health District (CCHD).

Which Phase we will be operating under will be determined by the positivity rates released at 4pm on Thursday afternoons. An official notice of a change in status will be made by Emergency Management personnel when it occurs, in the form of a press release.

August 6, 2021 Update:

On August 5, the State posted the weekly positivity rates for the Town, which indicated that we are now at 10.5 positive cases per 100,000 people, bringing us into the “Orange”. In accordance with the Town of Newington COVID-19 Transmission Reduction Plan, the following policy changes will go into effect in all Town buildings on **Monday, August 9, 2021**:

- **Masks covering both nose and mouth must be worn by any person while inside any Town building, regardless of vaccination status** (*reinstated 8/2/2021*)
- **Town buildings open to the public by appointment only.**
 - Contact information for most departments: <https://www.newingtonct.gov/Directory.aspx>
 - Please note, some departments have specific policies that should be reviewed prior to visiting. As we work together through this transition, members of the public are encouraged to call ahead to ensure that the services they are seeking are available
- **Any member of the public who enters a Town building must complete COVID-19 Screening Questions** **please stay home if you are symptomatic, are under quarantine/isolation, have been exposed, or are awaiting COVID-19 test results**

As the “Delta” variant continues to spread, we encourage you to consider the health and safety of your friends, family, neighbors, and community as a whole by wearing a mask indoors, washing hands frequently, watching your distance from others, and getting vaccinated. We understand and share the concern and disappointment that has come with these changes, but want to assure our citizens we are doing everything in our power to ensure continuity of services, while also prioritizing the health and safety of our residents, visitors, and staff. We are all in this together. Be safe.

Meghan L. Manke

Meghan L. Manke, Emergency Management Director

PHASE	Mask Covering Both Nose & Mouth Required	Social Distancing / Frequent Handwashing Recommended	Public Must Complete COVID-19 Screening	Routine Cleaning of Common Areas	Public Access to Municipal Buildings / Offices¹	Public Access to Newington Human Services²	Public Access to Newington Parks & Recreation Department³	Public Access to Newington Senior & Disabled Center⁴	Public Access to Lucy Robbins Welles Library⁵
I/RED	✓	✓	✓	✓	All town buildings closed to public ¹	Closed to public; services will be available virtually, curbside, etc. ²	Closed to public; virtual programming, curbside & online registration offered ³	Closed to public; virtual programming offered ⁴	Closed to public; virtual & curbside services offered ⁵
II/ORANGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	Doors locked, employee access only. Public access by appt. only ¹	In-person services offered on limited basis; appt. required ²	Doors locked, employee access only. Public access for scheduled programming only ³	In-person services expand – by appt. only ⁴	1st floor open for browsing, 2 nd floor by appointment only ⁵
III/YELLOW	✓	✓	✓	✓	Doors unlocked to public. Appt. encouraged, but not required ¹	Same as “Orange” – subject to change ²	Doors unlocked; building open to those attending scheduled programs & for registration only ³	In-person services expand – by appt. only ⁴	All areas open to public for browsing, no appt. required. Meeting rooms, leisure seating available ⁵
IV/GRAY	Department-specific requirements. Please follow posted signage.	<i>Recommended</i>	✗	✓	Doors unlocked to public. Appt. encouraged, but not required ¹	Same as “Orange” – subject to change ²	Doors unlocked to public. All in-person programming resumes ³	In-person services expand. ⁴	Same as “Yellow” – subject to change ⁵

¹ **Applies to:** *Town Hall* Municipal & Board of Ed. Offices (see separate listings for Human Services & Parks & Rec areas), *Police Dept.*, All *Firehouses/Fire Headquarters*, *Newington Emergency Medical Services* building, *Highway Dep.t.*, all other town-owned buildings not mentioned. **Please call individual Department for specific programming & access info.**

² **Newington Human Services** – please call (860) 665-8590 for specific programming and access information

³ **Newington Parks & Recreation / Mortensen Community Center** - please call (860) 665-8666 for specific programming and access information

⁴ **Newington Senior & Disabled Center** - please call (860) 665-8778 for specific programming and access information

⁵ **Lucy Robbins Welles Library** - please call (860) 665-8700 for specific programming and access information