

Dear Members of the Weston Community,

This message is about the advanced preparations our town is making in the event that the Coronavirus, CoVid-19, is identified in a patient in Connecticut. As of today, there have been no reports of any such case.

You are likely to have heard about cases in China, the source of the outbreak, as well as certain sections of Italy and other countries that have had people traveling in affected regions who subsequently developed symptoms.

Be assured, our Town government is working diligently to stay informed about the developing COVID-19 threat and we are actively planning to mitigate any such emergency, should it arise in Weston. Our Emergency Management Team has taken a monitoring posture and is working closely with all of our partners at the state and local levels, along with public health officials. We are also working closely with the Weston Public Schools.

There are many sources of information about CoVid-19. Here are some suggestions quoted from the Connecticut State Department of Public Health: <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Public-Health-Preparedness/Main-Page/2019-Novel-Coronavirus#Protect>

### **What are the symptoms of coronavirus/COVID-19?**

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the symptoms can include:

- Fever (100.4°F/38°C or higher)
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

The CDC recommends that you **call your healthcare professional** if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19.

### **How can you prevent infection?**

According to the CDC:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- **Stay home when you are sick!!**
- **When your children are sick keep them home from school!!**
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Only use a facemask if you are showing symptoms.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

We urge you all not to panic but instead to educate yourselves, heed the basic precautions and be prepared. As we learn more about COVID-19 we will continue to share information with you.