East Haven First COVID 19 Positive Resident

Today, East Haven has confirmed its first case of a resident testing positive with COVID-19. This individual is a 79-year-old male. The individual was hospitalized and his condition is unknown at this time.

"Positive cases of COVID-19 in East Haven have been expected as community transmission of the virus has been occurring in the area" said Michael Pascucilla, Director of Health for the East Shore District Health Department.

The East Haven Fire Department responded to the call at the address and two of its firefighters were exposed. Both are now in quarantine, along with their families, for 14 days.

According to Fire Chief Marcarelli, "The department is supporting them and their families and both firefighters are doing well. The East Shore District Health Department will work with the individual to ensure all appropriate CDC guidance is followed to limit any potential for exposure."

In addition, Pascucilla added, "The single best way to slow the spread is to practice social distancing, and the Town of East Haven is recommending that all individuals, both adults and children, stay home and not interact with individuals outside of the household."

Social distancing is crucial in helping to reduce the spread of the virus and limit the number of people who are infected.

Mayor Joseph Carfora urges the public to remain confident that all preparations have been and are being made. "The Town of East Haven's main objective is to continue to keep our public servants safe and our residents safe and slow the spread of the virus," the mayor stated. "Chief Marcarelli and Chief Lennon have worked tirelessly to put plans in place."

Everyone should be taking the everyday preventative actions to help protect themselves, these include:

- Staying home if you are sick except to get medical care.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Washing your hands with soap and water frequently and for at least 20 seconds.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands after.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- With proper social distancing, healthy persons can visit parks, beaches, walk/hike on trails and participate in other outdoor activities.

COVID-19 is a Novel Coronavirus which first emerged in China in December 2019, and is now considered a global pandemic outbreak. Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. For more information, resources, hotlines, testing, and how you can support local businesses while practicing social distancing, please visit: http://www.esdhd.org/coronavirus

Questions should be directed Fire Chief Marcarelli 203-468-3221