

A MESSAGE to the Chelsea Community regarding COVID-19:

Our priority in this small and vibrant town is to keep our public safe and healthy. To that end we are updating this website and the community Facebook page, FPF, and notices at Town Hall and Will's as the state and federal government update their recommendations.

Of note as of Monday March 16th:

-Governor Scott has issued a State of Emergency

-Public gatherings are limited to 50 people.

- Schools statewide will be closed effective Wednesday March 18th. This includes Orange County Parent Child Center and the Chelsea Public School.

If you are self-isolated or quarantined, we want to make sure you have the resources you need to stay at home. We will be announcing a mutual aid community form shortly. For non-emergent issues please contact a Selectboard member with any of your needs or concerns :

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The Vermont Department of Health and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are recommending some steps for everyone. By working together and to slowing the spread of contagious illnesses, including COVID-19, we protect the health of our entire community. The steps you should consider taking include:

- Frequently washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. The CDC has some good tips on effective handwashing here:
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Staying home when you are sick.**
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Both health agencies have helpful online materials for understanding the virus and how to reduce the risk associated with it.

- Read more from the Vermont Department of Health:
<https://www.healthvermont.gov/response/infectious-disease/2019-novel-coronavirus>
- Read more from the CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

The Vermont Department of Health also has tips about how to keep illness from spreading available in. The Vermont Department of Health is leading efforts to update the public and issue new guidance, and the Town also will continue to communicate directly with the public through this Town webpage and [Facebook Community Page](#).