

PRESS RELEASE

Today, August 7, 2020, the Town's Emergency Management Director was notified by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) of a potential COVID outbreak. The State issued the following media release:

NH DHHS Announces Potential Community Exposures Connected to Positive Cases of COVID-19 at Windham Crossing Life Church

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is investigating a potential outbreak of COVID-19 associated with individuals who have attended events hosted by the Windham Crossing Life Church, located at 122 North Lowell Road, Windham, NH. This includes a YouthStorm, Inc. camp event in Windham, NH on July 16 - 18th. To date, 16 persons with COVID-19 have been identified with connections to the church community. The public should not attend events related to the Windham Crossing Life Church over the next week while DHHS investigates these illnesses further.

Any individuals who attended events associated with Windham Crossing Life Church since July 10th may have been exposed to COVID-19 and should observe for illness and seek testing. In partnership with Windham Crossing Life Church, DHHS is offering a testing event for persons who may have been exposed. The testing event will be held on Monday, August 10th, 2020 from 5 – 7pm. To register for testing at this event, please call 603-271-5980 on Saturday or Sunday between 8am and 4pm.

For persons unable to attend the testing event, multiple testing options are available throughout the State. For persons without health insurance or a primary care provider, testing is available and can be scheduled by calling (603) 271-5980 or through completing the online form at https://business.nh.gov/DOS_COVID19Testing.

COVID-19 can present with a wide range of symptoms including fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, fatigue, headache, muscle aches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste or smell. Any person who develops new symptoms should stay home, limit their contact with others, immediately contact their healthcare provider and get tested for COVID-19. Guidance for self-observation is available at: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/self-observation-covid.pdf>

COVID-19 continues to circulate in our communities. People can protect themselves and help prevent further infections in our communities by:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoiding close contact with others. When outside your home, keep a distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others. This is known as social distancing.
- Wearing a cloth face covering that covers your mouth and nose to protect others when in public areas.
- Covering your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Staying home if you have a fever or are not feeling well.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

For more information on COVID-19 in NH, please visit <https://www.nh.gov/covid19/>.

When town officials were notified, an emergency meeting of the Board of Selectmen and School Board was held to advise them of the situation. Out of an abundance of caution, the Board of Selectmen authorized the closing of all town municipal buildings to the general public until at least Tuesday, August 11, 2020 to monitor the situation and ensure the health and safety of our employees and the residents as best we can.

All Town offices will be staffed and continue to provide services through our on-line portals and other means. The Transfer Station will maintain normal hours of operation and continue to operate while maintaining social distance protocols.

Town/Community Questions may be directed to:

Email: EM@WindhamNH.gov

Phone: Fire Department: (603)434-4907. Please note this is the non-emergency phone number. In the event of an emergency dial 911.

Windham School District Question may be directed to:

Email: covid19@windhamsd.org Phone: (603)845-1566

Website: https://www.sau95.org/what_s_new/c_o_v_i_d-19_resource_center

Both the Town and School Officials are monitoring the situation closely with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). We will continue to keep you informed of any changes or information provided to us by our state officials.

**Windham Emergency Management
Board of Selectmen
Windham School Board**