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Dear Friends,

This update provides the latest information regarding Covid-19 in Westchester and resources for you to protect yourself and your family as infection rates increase.

The threat of Covid-19 has not gone away. Cases are on the increase in Westchester and in the Port Chester area. This update includes important information about the Cluster Action Initiative, which is the state's strategy for controlling increases when infection rates rise in a community.

Masks, social distancing, and no large gatherings are more important than ever. Even small neighborhood and family gatherings have been the source of infection spreads. Each of us has a responsibility to protect everyone with whom we come into contact. Additional guidance on how to prevent Covid-19 spread is available through my offices and on the County and State health department websites.

This is my first community update since the November election. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to serve you and the Sound Shore communities in the 91st Assembly District. From the work of the last year on the Covid-19 crisis, to the wide variety of issues facing every resident, organization and school, my focus is on service and results. I look forward to working with you on the challenges we face in the future.

Warm regards,

their

# **Covid Rate is Increasing Across Westchester County and NYS**

The number of Covid cases has been on the rise across Westchester County which currently has a positivity rate of 2.34% (County tracker is available <u>HERE</u>) while the statewide average is about 1.8%. Some communities have experienced more dramatic increases. In response, the Governor has created guidance under the <u>Cluster Action Initiative</u> to focus on areas that have positivity rates above 3%.

In an effort to combat the currently high positivity rate in Port Chester, the Governor announced today that Port Chester and the immediate surrounding area will enter 'yellow zone restrictions'. Please see below.

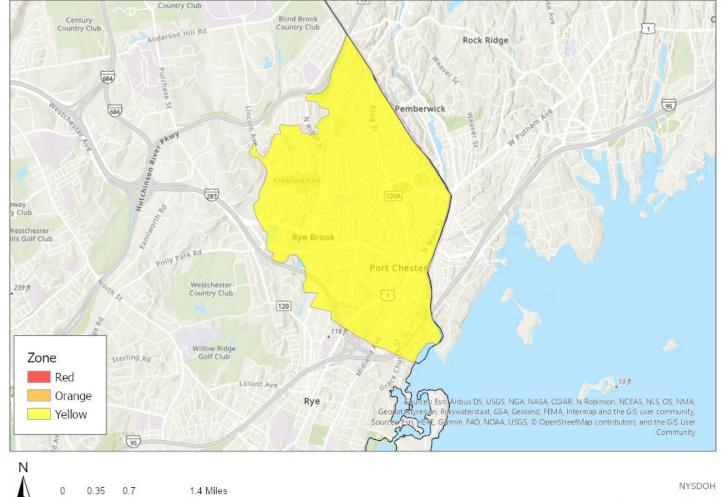
As a reminder - social distancing, hand washing and wearing a mask have proven to be effective is slowing the spread of the disease. Although we are all experiencing Covid fatigue, it is important to continue to comply with these measures to ensure we can keep our schools and businesses open.

# Covid Testing

To find a testing site near you and to make an appointment please visit the NY State Health Department <u>HERE</u> or call the New York State COVID-19 Hotline at **1-888-364-3065**. Testing is free for all New Yorkers at NYS run test sites.

## Percent Positive Results By County

# Cluster Action Initiative (Positive ECLRS Results) - Westchester



Pre-discussion, confidential

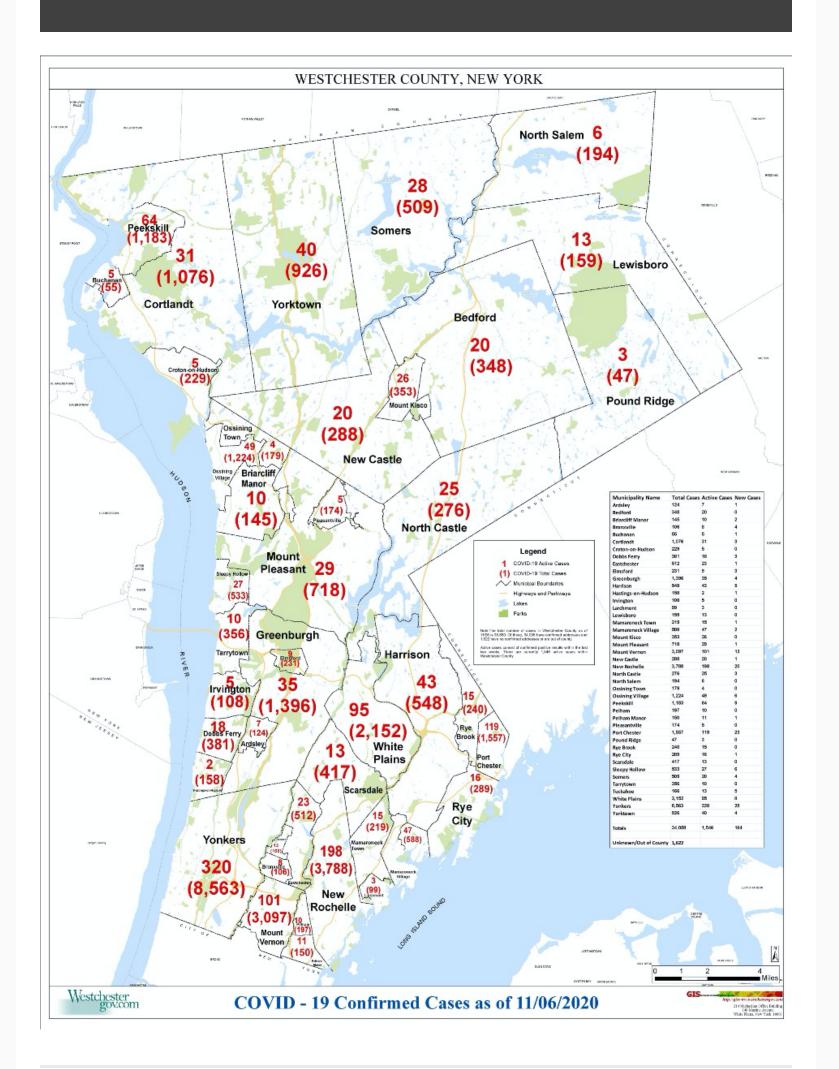
(Click picture below to zoom)

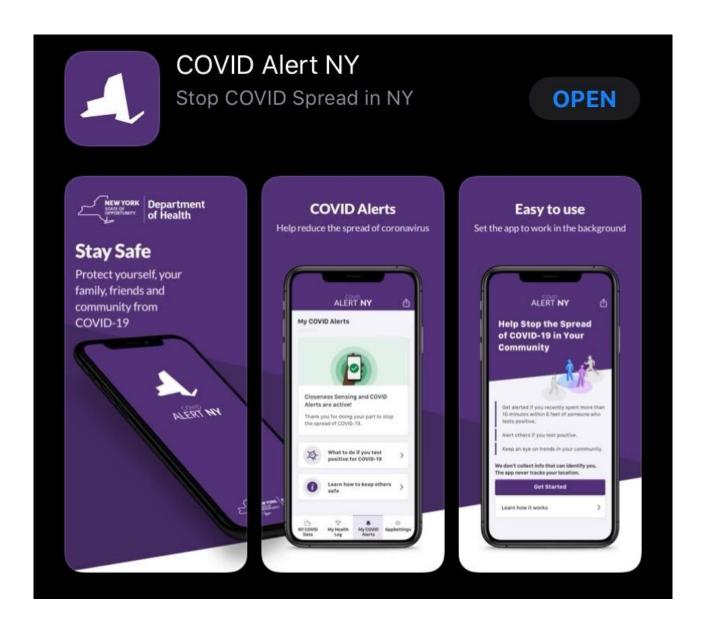
Type of Activity Red	Orange	Yellow
Non-Essential Gatherings	10 people maximum, indoors and outdoors	25 people maximum, indoors and outdoors
Lesser of: House of 25% of maxim Worship capacity 10 people	Lesser of: 33% of maximum capacity 25 people	50% of maximum capacity
Businesses Non-essential businesses arc closed	Certain high-risk non-essential businesses (eg., gyms, fitne	Open
Dining Takeout or de only	livery Outdoor dining, takeout or delivery only, 4 person maximu	Indoor and outdoor dining permitted, 4 person maximum per table
Schools Closed* Remote-only	Closed* Remote-only	Open Mandatory weekly testing of students and school personnel, in accordance with DOH guidance to be issued by October 9, 2020.

The Westchester County Health Department and Open Door Family Medical Center will be offering increased testing at: Open Door Port Chester located at 5 Grace Church St, Port Chester, NY Testing will be available: Saturday, November 7: 9am-2pm Monday, November 9, from 10am - 6pm;

Tuesday, November 10, from 10am - 6pm.

Those who wish to make an appointment should call <u>914-995-7425</u> or <u>CLICK HERE</u>





**Covid Alert New York** 

# New phone app flags COVID-19 exposure. Add your phone. Stop the spread.

The state has launched a mobile contact tracing app that will notify you if you've potentially been exposed to a COVID-19-positive person.

If a person using the app spends 10 minutes within six feet of you, your phones will swap random codes to remember the contact. According to the Cuomo administration, the codes don't record anything about the individual or their location. If the other app user tests positive for the virus within the next few days, the app can send you an alert after checking your codes.

The app also features a "health log" option that lets someone track their health by storing a log of any symptoms. The app asks users whether they are experiencing symptoms such as fatigue, a headache, fever or sore throat, and also for information including their county of residence, age range, and ethnicity.

Search for 'Covid Alert New York' in the App Store to download.

## School and College COVID-19 Dashboard Available Online

The online dashboard that allows anyone to check on reported COVID-19 cases in any school, college or university in the state is now live. Governor Cuomo has required that all schools report COVID-19 cases to the NYS Department of Health on a daily basis. The reporting requirement includes all public and private schools, charter schools and all colleges and universities.

School and University Covid-19 Statewide Tracker

To help protect at-risk individuals and essential workers from exposure to COVID-19

New Yorkers need to wear masks or face coverings in public when social distancing isn't possible.

#### New Travel Advisory for Domestic Travel

Governor Cuomo issued a new <u>Executive Order</u> that changes the quarantine restrictions on travelers arriving to NY from out of state. The new guidelines allow out-of-state travelers to "test out" of the mandatory 14-day quarantine. This Executive Order supersedes and makes obsolete the prior EO that created a travel advisory list.

Effective Wednesday, November 4, 2020, out-of-state travelers must be tested within three days prior to landing in New York, quarantine for a minimum of three days upon arrival, and get a test on day four of arrival. If both tests come back negative, the traveler may exit the quarantine early.

All travelers covered by the advisory are required to fill out a NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) traveler health information form upon arrival. Those arriving at an airport are required to complete the form upon entering the state, and those traveling by other means of transportation must complete the form online. Travelers who leave the airport without completing the form will be subject to a \$2,000 fine and may be brought to a hearing and ordered to complete a mandatory quarantine.

Essential workers, international travelers, and states that are contiguous with New York (New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Vermont) are exempt from these rules. Non-essential workers who cannot get tested are required to quarantine. Travelers who were out of state for less than 24 hours are not required to quarantine, but they must get a test on day four of arrival in New York State.

The option to "test out" of quarantine applies only to travel quarantine and does not apply to those quarantining for 14 days after coming into contact with a known positive case.

For more information, visit the travel advisory <u>HERE</u>.

## January 2021 Regents Exams Cancelled

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the New York State Education Department decided to <u>cancel</u> the examinations across the state to ensure the safety of both students and educators. The Education Department will also ask the Board of Regents to adopt emergency regulations and apply specific exemptions so not to negatively impact students. A decision on the June and August exams have not been decided yet.



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