

Town of Chester, VT
Selectboard Statement Regarding COVID-19
December 29, 2021

The Selectboard of the Town of Chester, acting in their capacity as Selectboard and as Board of Health, are concerned about the safety of their residents and municipal employees. As of this date, the State of Vermont and neighboring counties in New Hampshire are experiencing increased rates of transmission due to the COVID-19 virus and its variants.

The Center for Disease Control recommends numerous guidelines for disease mitigation, including frequent washing of hands, maintaining distances of 6 feet and face coverings in public settings indoors in areas of “substantial” or “high” rates of transmission. On November 22, 2021, the Vermont Legislature passed Bill S.1 that empowers Vermont municipalities to enact local rules requiring the wearing of face coverings in indoor public settings. The Governor has signed that bill into law.

The Selectboard is strongly encouraging all residents and visitors of Chester to renew their efforts to control the spread of COVID-19 by employing to the best extent possible all of the known mitigation strategies set forth by the CDC and the Vermont Department of Health, including:

- Encourage vaccination of eligible residents, to include booster shots;
- Diligence in washing hands and use of hand sanitizers;
- Practice social distancing whenever possible;
- Avoiding large indoor gatherings when possible;
- Wearing face masks when you are in an indoor congregate setting;
- Encouraging frequent testing especially after being with large groups of individuals.

The Town of Chester encourages all businesses who serve the public indoors to formulate a disease mitigation strategy and/or mask wearing policy suitable for their business. The protocols developed for use by town staff are available at Town Hall and on the Town’s website.

In its effort to help inform the public regarding the status of COVID in our community, the Town of Chester encourages all businesses to post a copy of this statement in a location visible to employees and the public.

The Town of Chester is committed to keeping all residents and visitors of Chester safe while also recognizing and supporting the needs of our local businesses.

Chester Selectboard