



Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update July 31, 2020



Cloth Face Covering Do's & Don'ts:

DO:

- ✓ Make sure you can breathe through it
- ✓ Wear it whenever going out in public
- ✓ Make sure it covers your nose and mouth
- ✓ Wash after using

DON'T:

- ✗ Use on children under age 2
- ✗ Use surgical masks or other personal protective equipment (PPE) intended for healthcare workers



cdc.gov/coronavirus

CONFIRMED CASES

- Today, there are 181,660 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 648 still under investigation. Currently, the County has 16,523 cases, with Westfield reporting seven new cases since Tuesday, including six today, bringing our total to 347.
- Contact tracing efforts by the Board of Health have documented 27 of Westfield's 65 new cases in July were related to social gatherings, both indoors and outdoors, mostly in the young adult population. This is a worrisome trend, and I'd be remiss not to remind everyone that even outdoor events are risky if precautions like face coverings and proper distance are not put in place.
- For a more detailed breakdown of statewide numbers, visit the NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard.

STATE UPDATES

- Governor Murphy announced today that New Jersey's rate of transmission now stands at 1.35, which is part of an ongoing increase above the recommended threshold of 1.0. The last time the rate of transmission was this high was back on April 7 -- a time when COVID hospitalizations in New Jersey were at their peak.
- In addition, the daily number of new cases statewide is now back at a level not seen since last month. The Governor has attributed these increases to indoor parties and events that do not have face covering or distance protocols in place, particularly among young adults. In better news, Thursday was the first day since March 10 that there were no COVID-19 deaths reported in New Jersey hospitals.

LOCAL UPDATES

- In case you missed it, Chief Battiloro announced earlier this week that he is establishing a Juvenile/Community Policing Bureau, effective tomorrow, August 1. This new bureau will be supervised by Sergeant Lauren Maloney, who will be joined by Detective Elizabeth Savnik and School Resource/Community Service Officers Paul Ferry, Ricardo Johnson, and Tiffany Kenny. This bureau will focus its efforts on ensuring the safety and well-being of not only juveniles, but all of Westfield's most vulnerable populations – including senior citizens and those with special needs. I am thrilled with the Chief's announcement and his ongoing commitment to community policing.
- Our 2020 Census completion rate now stands at 80.9%, the third highest in the County, and officially surpassing our 2010 final completion rate of 80.4%. That said, we still have time to get everyone counted. If you have not already done so, please take a few minutes and complete your information at 2020census.gov.
- The Conservation Center remains open every Thursday through Sunday, and seasonal permits are still available to deposit organic debris. In addition, remember that our robust recycling program can be utilized free of charge, with no permit required -- and you can now take advantage of our new tennis ball recycling drop off. For more details about our offerings at the Center, visit www.westfieldnj.gov/conservation.
- Thanks to everyone who came out to enjoy the kick off of the Westfield 300 Summer Movie Series! Special thanks to Stop & Shop Westfield for sponsoring the screening of "Ratatouille" and providing free snacks for the crowd. Registration opens Monday at noon for "Raiders of the Lost Ark" on August 6 at Tamaques Park: bit.ly/W300MovieSeries.
- Don't miss another great weekend on Open Quimby, with live music Friday and Saturday night from 6:30 - 8:00PM, fitness programming from Satsang Yoga, Alpha Fit, Brassy Buddha Yoga, and Outrun Your Fork -- plus an updated look, with new plants and lighting in our outdoor dining areas. Get the full details on the DWC website: www.westfieldtoday.com.

Have a great weekend -- please remember to wear a mask to ensure we all stay healthy and safe!