**A vaccination update from The Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH):**

**Good news:** Vaccination eligibility expands. **Concerning News:** Positive COVID-19 cases continue to rise.

**Action needed:** Get vaccinated. Promote vaccination. Remind those vaccinated to continue prevention strategies.

**Many people mistakenly think that they can return to “normal” activities following vaccination. Please share and post the attached fliers broadly, which remind those who have been vaccinated to continue to wear masks, wash hands, stay six feet apart and avoid crowds. Refer to this guidance for what you can and cannot do following vaccination:** [**https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html**](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2Ffully-vaccinated.html&data=04%7C01%7CKrista.Veneziano%40ct.gov%7C2f781a6c8e2b4a76b95d08d8f5f6b269%7C118b7cfaa3dd48b9b02631ff69bb738b%7C0%7C0%7C637529787211295430%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=9ul2E0XBlhgVt7mzGUZiP6aNch9AF4n1PFp2ypyNhTE%3D&reserved=0)**.**

* COVID-19 vaccination has opened to all individuals 16 years of age and older who live, work, or attend school in Connecticut. Please remain patient when trying to schedule an appointment.
* Students ages 16+ attending school remotely and employees ages 16+ working remotely who reside outside of Connecticut should receive vaccine in their home state.
* Moderna and Johnson and Johnson vaccines are authorized for ages 18+.
* Pfizer vaccine is authorized for ages 16+. (NDDH clinics do not use Pfizer and are unable to vaccinate ages 16/17)
* Eligible high school, college, and university students may make appointments at public clinics if they choose. Information on dedicated clinics for large student groups/schools will be forthcoming.
* **All the vaccine scheduling options in the state** can be found here by typing in a zip code: <https://portal.ct.gov/vaccine-portal/COVID-19-Vaccination-Scheduling-Options>.
* **Homebound individuals** may register on the state website for in-home vaccination at <https://dphsubmissions.ct.gov/homebound>. Once they register, the state DPH will compile a list of names and forward it to Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, who is the Point of Contact for vaccinating homebound individuals in our NDDH service district. Someone from DKH will reach out to them to arrange vaccination. To qualify, homebound individuals must be physically or medically unable to go to a vaccination clinic with or without assistance and have no history of anaphylaxis or severe allergic reaction requiring the use of an Epi pen.

Longer days, warmer weather, the easing of certain economic/gathering restrictions, and other conditions are creating environments that increase the risk of spreading and getting COVID-19. Positive cases are on the rise. **Please role-model and promote protective behaviors.**

Additional information regarding vaccination can be found at the [CT Vaccine Portal](https://portal.ct.gov/Vaccine-Portal) or the [NDDH vaccination webpage](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nddh.org%2Fservices%2Femergency-preparedness%2Fcoronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19%2Fcovid-19-vaccination%2F&data=04%7C01%7CKrista.Veneziano%40ct.gov%7C2f781a6c8e2b4a76b95d08d8f5f6b269%7C118b7cfaa3dd48b9b02631ff69bb738b%7C0%7C0%7C637529787211305390%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=2qjTa5SHoPem74D%2BvEYlsYuTK8RtqEJXYuAi1Umax7w%3D&reserved=0).

*A final note…April 5-11 is National Public Health Week. COVID-19 has clearly revealed the importance of local public health districts, departments, services and systems. Even as NDDH continues to prioritize and execute a strong, coordinated COVID-19 response we also continue to provide the countless other public health services essential to the health and well-being of our residents. We are grateful for your partnerships and proud to serve our communities.*

Spring is a time of renewal…we wish you the blessings of this holiday season and share the hope of brighter days ahead.

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*STAY SAFE from COVID-19 – Even if vaccinated, wear your mask, keep your distance, wash your hands, and avoid crowds.* [Learn what you can and cannot do following vaccination.](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2Ffully-vaccinated.html%23print&data=04%7C01%7CKrista.Veneziano%40ct.gov%7C2f781a6c8e2b4a76b95d08d8f5f6b269%7C118b7cfaa3dd48b9b02631ff69bb738b%7C0%7C0%7C637529787211315348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=ssuNiNYp6yjWdmzd7u1bE3lDZQigaodvDA7JZkevPtg%3D&reserved=0)

For more information, visit the [CT Vaccine Portal](https://portal.ct.gov/Vaccine-Portal) or the [NDDH Vaccination Webpage](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.nddh.org%2Fservices%2Femergency-preparedness%2Fcoronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19%2Fcovid-19-vaccination%2F&data=04%7C01%7CKrista.Veneziano%40ct.gov%7C2f781a6c8e2b4a76b95d08d8f5f6b269%7C118b7cfaa3dd48b9b02631ff69bb738b%7C0%7C0%7C637529787211315348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=2Z018GTXFZHyNNU4tX4mNXi%2BBgoZ3x7qtMSuHWK7W68%3D&reserved=0).

**National Public Health Week is April 5-11, 2021  #ThankYouPublicHealth**

Thank you for being a valued public health partner!
NDDH - Preventing illness, promoting wellness, and protecting public health since 1973.