

# Wallingford Health Department



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# 2021 Annual Report

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# Staff



The Health Department has the responsibility of overall protection of the public health of all residents. The CT General Statutes, Title 19, Chapter 368a Section 19a-2a provide the scope and authority for the enforcement of public health statutes and the regulations of the CT Public Health Code (CT PHC). Departmental data is reported quarterly to the Board of Health, and minutes for public access are posted on the Town website, as required. Required services are detailed in CGS§ 19a-207 and reflect the “10 Essential Public Health Services”, with a strong emphasis on community education and active engagement in policy development.

The Covid-19 pandemic response was the focus of 2021. Simultaneously, the department continued to provide vital public health services to the community as required by state statute. The 2021 Wallingford Health Department annual report will provide a brief overview of the essential services the department provided to the Wallingford community.

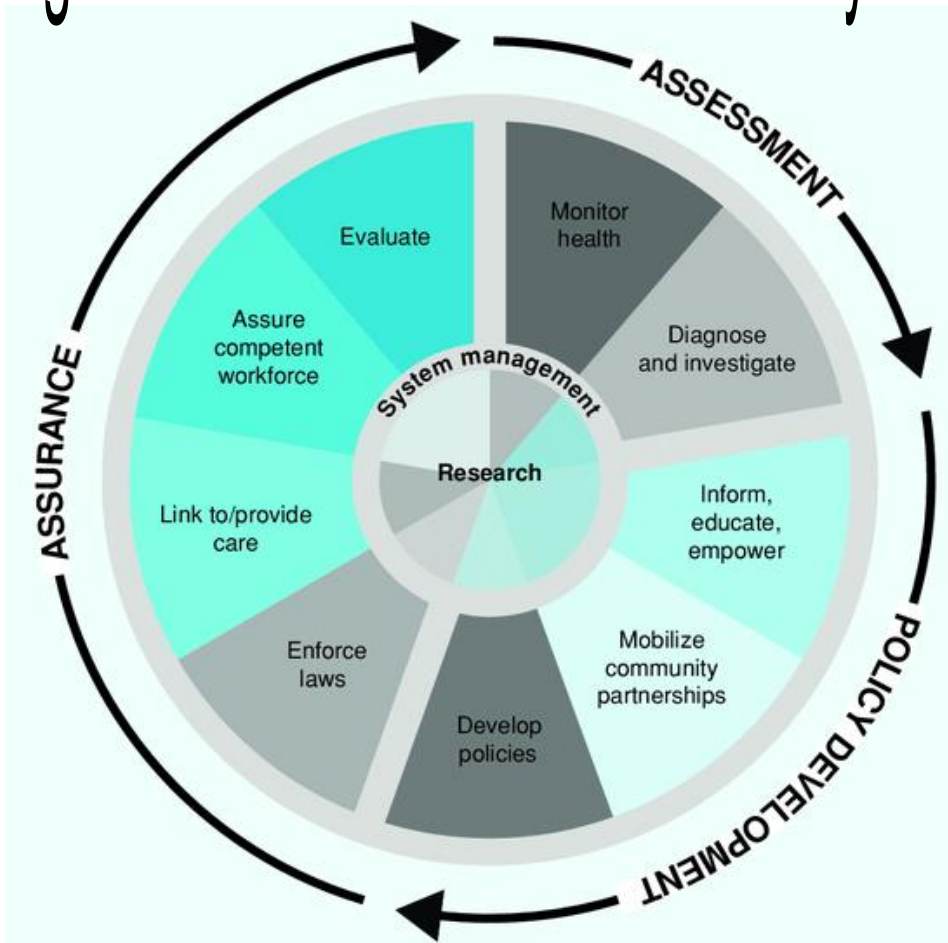
The Health Department has skilled professional staff who collectively strive to provide all the 10 Essential Public Health Services to Wallingford residents. The Health Department continues to implement CT Covid-19 guidance, enforce and interpret Governor’s Executive Orders, contact trace in the community (utilizing Microsoft ContaCT), provide isolation and quarantine guidance, conduct vaccination/booster clinics using FDA Emergency Authorized vaccines and provide PPE thru multiple distributions to the community.

The Health Department also worked closely with the Wallingford Public School system in navigating the multitude of items that needed to be addressed in operating the schools during the Covid-19 pandemic. Providing support to the school administration and nurses has proven to be a vital aspect of our community's pandemic response. The Health Department also assisted in response to the Covid-19 pandemic with data collection and reporting; supply delivery; outreach and education; media and communications; and material development.

The Wallingford Health Department has a foundation of core environmental health components which impact all residents in one or more aspects (Food Safety and Food Establishment Inspections, Subsurface Sewage Inspections, Private Drinking Water Wells, Public Health Nuisance Complaints, Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention, sanitary aspects of Nail Salons, Beauty/Barber Salons and Tattoo Establishments; Public Swimming Pool Inspections and Daycare Center Inspections). The nature of nuisance complaint code violations and the process to achieve compliance continues to grow more complex. The Director of Health has ministerial responsibility to investigate and enforce all such violations. We routinely work with the State’s Attorney Office, Housing Prosecutor and are actively engaged in dialogue focused on an integrated response to issues that overlap the spectrum of public health and into areas of social services, rental housing, fire marshal, emergency services, and population health with the intent to prevent the escalation of violations and reduce the need for criminal prosecution. Code enforcement is a valuable component for maintaining a healthy community and provides a mechanism to distribute our residents' educational resources.

The following are the CGS stipulated “10 Essential Public Health Services” and examples of the associated services we provide:

# Putting the 10 Essential Services in Daily Context



## 1. Monitor health status to identify and understand community health issues

**Example:** Conduct regular review of Wallingford health data through the use of the CT DPH electronic disease system known as MAVEN; conduct outreach and education to medical providers and residents concerning communicable disease, chronic disease, vaccine-preventable disease; currently engaged with community partners for the continued review and updating of Wallingford Health Improvement Plan based on both the State and National outline.

- Staff were involved in the following areas: case investigation, contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine notifications and releases in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

## 2. Identify (diagnose) and investigate health problems and health hazards

**Example:** Public health nuisance complaint investigation program (detailed in the Environmental Services section): 168 complaints investigated in CY 2021 as per CT PHC definition of “nuisance complaint” including corrective and the issuance of Legal Order to Comply, enforcement through arrest process and Housing Court or contract abatement action and priority lien assessed. 18% of those complaints were Covid-19 related.

-Utilize the CT DPH laboratory services for analysis of environmental samples (lead, soil, water) and CT Agricultural Experiment Station for insect/pest/plant samples (ticks, bedbugs, spiders, and poison oak/ivy/sumac) and educate/assist the resident based on results. The mosquito trapping station in town was monitored and provided updates to town leadership/residents regarding EEE and WNV.

- Local Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) such as coordinating with the Town Emergency Management for Local Emergency Response Plan based on the FEMA guidelines and Emergency Support Functions (ESF's); developing response plans (Covid-19, Ebola, H1N1, Anthrax, Pandemic Influenza, Emerging Infectious Diseases)

- Partnered with the CT DPH Radon Program to promote radon testing and mitigation by distributing free test kits to the local community.

-Provide consult and support to BOE concerning communicable illness throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. (Examples, Covid-19, Pertussis, measles, emergency response planning, Tools-for-Schools, and Indoor Air Quality, Food Allergy Committee, Health, and Wellness Committee, and School Security Committee).

3. Inform, educate, and empower people about health issues in order to make healthy choices

**Example:** Childhood Lead Poisoning Protection Education, 10 cases of childhood lead exposure in 2021 resulting in in-home risk assessments and parental education; conducted community outreach on various health topics and provide printed material and consultation

- Conducted contact tracing in the community to inform and educate residents on Covid-19.
- Local food service employees completed in-house Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) certification.
- Assisted local licensed facilities with Covid-19 Guidance/Governor's Executive Orders.

4. Mobilize/Engage the community partnerships to identify and solve health problems

**Examples:** Active participant and leadership role with multiple community partners and stakeholders to assess needs and develop policy changes to improve overall health (Wallingford Community health Alliance, Coalition for a Better Wallingford, Wallingford Committee on Aging, YMCA, and Healthy Living Initiatives, BOE, site host for undergraduate and graduate students).

- Developed partnerships with varying stakeholders (Allnex, YMCA, BOE, Gaylord Hospital, Masonicare, Wallingford Housing Authority, Wallingford Public Library, SCOW, Wallingford Senior Center, Choate Rosemary Hall) to implement various Covid-19 mobile vaccine clinics.

5. Develop public health policies and plans that support community health efforts

**Examples:** Review and recommend new or revisions as needed to ordinances (Food, Septic, and Nail Salons/Tattoo Establishments).

- Public Health Advocacy to state, town leadership, general public
- Current President of the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH)
- Appointed to Governor Lamont's Vaccine Advisory Group
- Member of the Connecticut Environmental Health Association
- Assessed the Wallingford Public Schools Reopening Plan
- Reviewed various Covid-19 policies developed by community organizations such as the YMCA, Wallingford Parks & Recreation, and Wallingford Human Resources.



6. Enforce public health laws and regulations that protect health and safety

**Examples:** Review total enforcement actions by function in attached Environmental Activities.

- Coordinate with Planning and Zoning, Building, Fire Marshal, and Water/Sewer Division to review proposed land use developments.
- Conducted multiple meetings with the Wallingford Police Department, Wallingford Fire Department, Emergency Management, and the Board of Education to review Covid-19 guidelines.
- Sanitarians performed regular licensed facility inspections and verified Covid-19 guidelines were followed.

7. Link people to needed health services

**Examples:** Promote community-based health services on a departmental developed centralized document for underinsured/low-income residents; provide nursing services at Senior Center.

- Conducted flu clinics in October.
- Conducted Covid-19 vaccination clinics at different locations (Wallingford Housing Authority and the Spanish Community of Wallingford)

8. Maintain a competent public health workforce

**Examples:** Ensure all professional staff maintains current certifications and required continuing education, training, and professional development; participate in DEMHS Region 2 exercises/drills. Current staff members continue online training for code enforcement offered through FDA, NEHA, DEEP, and DPH.

9. Evaluate the effectiveness and quality of programs and interventions

**Examples:** Conduct monthly quality assurance inspections and standardization with staff (implemented 2014); review written reports for compliance with policy and enforcement of regulations; evaluate protocols integrated with grant-funded programs/initiatives. Internal quality assurance program for environmental department functions promotes efficiency and thoroughness of work. Standard 4 of FDA Food Code Program Standards are the foundation for this quality assurance program.

10. Research and apply new and innovative solutions to address public health problems

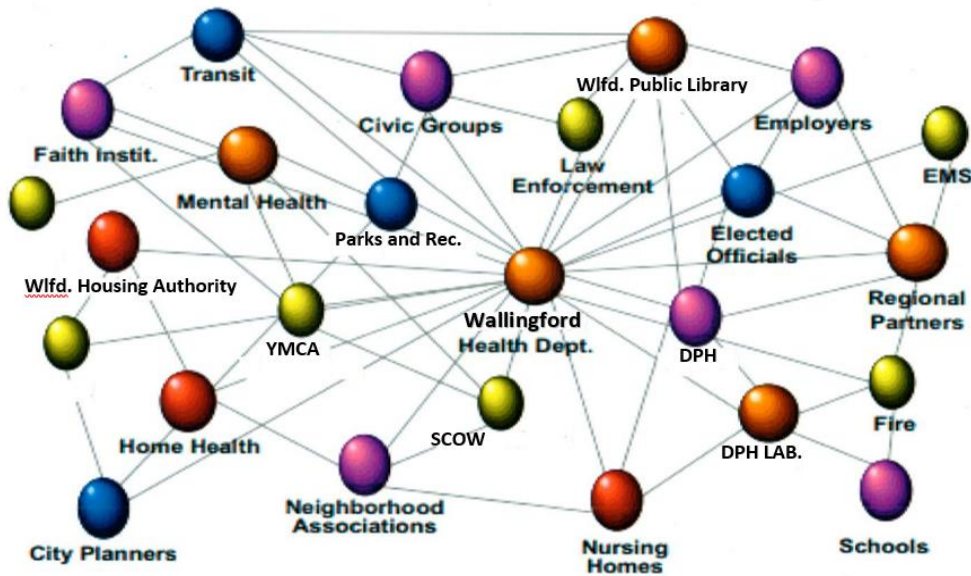
**Examples:** Support Public Health Research and development of evidence-based best practices as site preceptor for undergraduate/graduate students; Report/Present on experiences and practices at professional forums/events such as CCM and CADH.

- Conduct health education programs based on improved outcome (Childhood Lead Prevention and Risk Assessments, employee health and safety presentations)
- Work with the State’s Attorney Office, Housing Prosecutor, for an integrated response to hoarding.
- Continue Wallingford Community Health Assessments to better respond to the needs of the community.



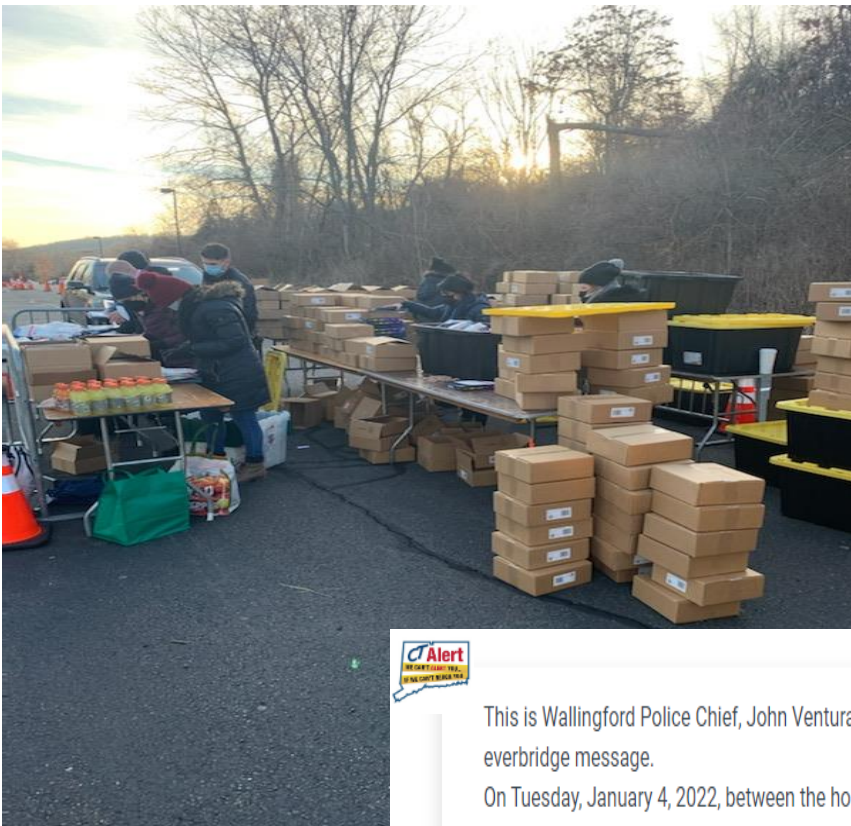
The Health Department overall goals and objectives are to continue maintaining the quality and efficient delivery of all the required services as listed. More specifically, we will continue in our efforts to collaborate with community partners in Covid-19 vaccinations and response efforts in addition to offering homebound vaccination within the community.

# Local Public Health System



Looking Forward to 2022






This is Wallingford Police Chief, John Ventura. Please standby for an everbridge message.

On Tuesday, January 4, 2022, between the hours of 4 PM and 7 PM, the Town of Wallingford Health Department will be holding a Home Covid Test Kit and N-95 Mask distribution event. The program will be held at the Oakdale Theater located at 95 South Turnpike Road. Individuals are asked to enter through the main driveway to the Oakdale Theater on South Turnpike Road and will be directed to a queue where members of the Town of Wallingford Emergency Management will further instruct individuals. Those wishing to obtain a test will be required to present identification showing proof of Wallingford Residency. There is a very limited supply of both N-95 masks and Covid testing kits and distribution will be prioritized on a first come first serve basis. We ask that individuals do not line up in advance of the times as to not interfere with normal business operations of the Oakdale Theater.






Wallingford Health Department  
WALK-IN  
**COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC**



**Tuesday - Thursday**  
August 3 - 5, 2021  
10am - 4pm  
143 Hope Hill Rd. Wallingford

**You must bring a Photo ID And be 18+ Moderna**

**PROTECTED TOGETHER get vaccinated**



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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS E-PAPER SERVICES

UNITED WAY POWER UP WORKFORCE  
THANK YOU FOR HELPING US ELEVATE OUR COMMUNITY IN 2021!

Wallingford vaccine clinics reach homebound, vulnerable residents



Reportajes de la Comunidad Latina  
**LATINO COMMUNITIES Reporting Lab**

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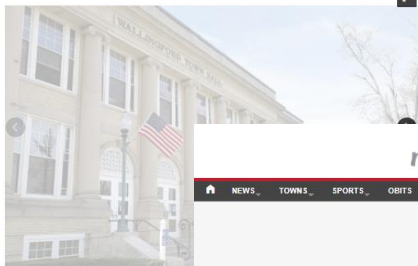
**Wallingford health dept. seeks to expand staff as work combating COVID-19 continues**



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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS


**Wallingford racked up 169 COVID-19-related health complaints last year**



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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS

**Local officials announce COVID test distribution plans. What you need to know.**




Katie Lucey administers a COVID-19 test on her son, Maguire, at a PCR and Rapid Antigen COVID-19 coronavirus test pop-up on Wall Street in New York on Dec. 10. AP File photo

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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS


**EDITORIAL: Wallingford to add contact tracing position**



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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS


**Wallingford officials move to prohibit recreational marijuana businesses**



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NEWS TOWNS SPORTS OBITS LATINO NEWS FOOD & DRINK CLASSIFIEDS

**Local health officials contend with Covid uptick**



# Looking Forward to 2022



# Environmental

Environmental Inspections	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Food (288 Establishments, 48 Temp Events)	882	686	1012	928	1041
Salon (95 establishments)	78	99	120	129	130
Day Care (29 establishments)	15	16	23	17	21
Pool (22 Public Pools)	38	20	44	45	36
Soil Testing	21	15	13	5	19
Septic	16	37	34	25	27
Well	6	9	3	10	11
B-100A	12	26	16	11	21
<b>Total Inspections</b>	<b>1068</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>1265</b>	<b>1170</b>	<b>1306</b>

Nuisance Complaints	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Garbage/Bulky Waste	29	42	54	56	61
Food Service	17	23	47	31	27
Barbershop/Hair/Nail	3	3	2	6	4
Lead	1	1	19	19	1
Odor	6	11	15	8	6
Dog Feces	2	1	3	3	3
Bed Bugs/Mold	1	3	7	6	6
Sewage	4	7	11	8	7
Stagnant Water	3	6	6	6	3
Pool	0	0	1	3	2
Rodents	12	12	16	11	29
Other	25	32	49	42	39
Tick Submissions	35	15	27	24	16
Covid-19	30	169			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>204</b>
Health Orders Issued	7	12	27	23	43



# Revenue

Account	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Food	\$20,115	\$18,995	\$22,363.50	\$22,480	\$20,730
Salon	\$6,700	\$7,125	\$7,050	\$6,850	\$6,950
Perc Test	\$50.00	\$200	\$100	\$100	\$200
Septic	\$1,850	\$1,650	\$1,650	\$1,000	\$1,250
Well	\$550	\$350	\$150	\$475	\$600
Misc.	\$51.50	\$123	\$128	\$131.50	\$185
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$29,316.50</b>	<b>\$28,403</b>	<b>\$31,441.50</b>	<b>\$31,036.50</b>	<b>\$29,915</b>





**Help Keep Wallingford Safe**

**FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN UPON ENTERING THIS FACILITY**

**SYMPTOMS OF CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported - ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. These symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus:

- Cough
- Fever
- Headache
- New Loss of Taste or Smell
- Repeated Shaking with Chills
- Sore Throat
- Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
- Muscle Pain

**IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS DO NOT ENTER THIS FACILITY**

Stay at least **SIX FEET** from others.

**Social Distancing** is simple and can help you and others stay safe.

For more information please contact the Wallingford Health Department at (203) 294-2065

**Ayuda a Mantener Nuestro Pueblo Wallingford Seguro**

**SE DEBE USAR LA MASCARILLA AL INGRESAR LA INSTALACION**

**SÍNTOMAS DEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)**

Las personas con COVID-19 pueden tener los siguientes síntomas. Estos síntomas pueden ser leves o graves. Estos síntomas pueden aparecer de 2 a 14 días después de exponerse al virus:

- Tos
- Gripe
- Dolor de Cabeza
- Perdida de sabor y Olfato
- Temblores con Escalofríos
- Dolor de Garganta
- Falta de Aire o Dificultad para Respirar
- Dolor de Músculos o Cuerpo

**SI TIENE ALGUNO DE ESTOS SÍNTOMAS NO ENTRE A ESTA INSTALACION**

Manténganse al menos **SEIS PIES** de los demás.

El distanciamiento social es simple y puede ayudarlo a usted y a otros a mantenerse seguros.

Para obtener más información comuníquese con el Departamento de Salud de Wallingford (203) 294-2065



Flyers & Educational Material

# NOTICE / AVISO

**Hand Sanitizer Station**



**Estación  
Disinfectante  
De Manos**



## ★ Radio to North Pole—Talk to Santa!★



**Who:** Wallingford Amateur Radio Group, with the Wallingford Health Dept, Youth & Social Services, and Masters Manna

**When:** Saturday December 11, 2021, 10:30am—2pm

**Where:** Yalesville Firehouse 143 Hope Hill Road Wallingford CT 06492

**Why:** So the kids can talk to Santa!

Snacks provided & crafts are available! **PLEASE** bring nonperishables for Masters Manna! and unwrapped toys for Holiday for Giving!



45 South Main St. Rm. 215 • Phone: (203) 294-2065 • Fax: (203) 294-2064

## The Dangers of:



**The second leading cause of lung cancer.**

Join the Wallingford Health Department for a discussion on Radon testing! Material to be covered:

- The easy steps of testing for Radon.
- Why radon will effect you and your family.
- How Radon Mitigation systems work.



**Free radon test kit if you attend this session!**

Call to sign-up:  
(203) 294-2065

**January 19, 2021  
1pm—2pm  
Wallingford Public Library  
200 N Main St,  
Wallingford CT 06492**

45 South Main St. Rm. 215 • Phone: (203) 294-2065 • Fax: (203) 294-2064

## Get your annual flu shot

All vaccines at our flu clinics will be administered by licensed and experienced nurses from VNA Community Healthcare & Hospice

- CDC recommends yearly flu shots for all ages
- Participating insurance or private pay (cash, check or MC/Visa)
- Bring all insurance cards with you
- Masks are required at all VNACHCH flu clinics



### Participating Insurances

65 years or older:	18 & Older:
Medicare Part B	Aetna
Aetna Medicare	Anthem BCBS
Anthem BCBS Medicare	Connecticare
Connecticare VIP	Harvard Pilgrim Health
<b>Not Participating:</b>	
Cigna and United Healthcare	

Pre-registration is required on our website at [www.vnacommunityhealthcare.org/flu](http://www.vnacommunityhealthcare.org/flu)

DATE | Saturday, October 16  
TIME | 9:30 a.m. - Noon  
LOCATION | Wallingford Public Library  
200 N. Main St.  
FLU HOTLINE | 203.458.5920



Turn to us:  
753 Boston Post Rd.  
Guilford, CT 06437  
2319 Whitney Ave.  
Hamden, CT 06518  
Toll Free Helpline: 1.866.474.5230

[vnacommunityhealthcare.org](http://vnacommunityhealthcare.org)

Flyers & Educational Material



# Health & Wellness

Event	Date	Note
<b>Radon Info. Session</b>	1/19/2021	Discussion on Radon at the Wlfd. Public Library
<b>Covid-19 Bilingual Info Session Q&amp;A</b>	7/8, 8/25,10/6, 10/12,10/20, 11/16/21	Covid-19 informational sessions presented for Spanish community of Wallingford members. Presented in Spanish & English by the Chief Sanitarian.
<b>Celebrate Wallingford</b>	10/6/2021	Sanitarians inspected food booths
<b>Holiday Stroll</b>	12/3/2021	Sanitarians inspected food booths
<b>Radio to North Pole</b>	12/11/2021	Community Outreach Activity
<b>Hands-Only CPR</b>	10/19/21, 8/10/21	CPR/AED Training for individuals at the Wlfd. Parks and Recs.
<b>Public Flu Clinic</b>	10/16/2021	Annual opportunity for residents to receive their influenza vaccinations.
<b>Town Hall Flu Clinic</b>	11/4/21	Annual opportunity for /First Responders/Town employees to receive their influenza vaccinations.
<b>Covid-19 Vaccine Clinics</b>		The Town of Wallingford Health Department hosted vaccination Covid-19 clinics including homebound vaccination appointments throughout the 2021 calendar year.



Event	Date	Note
<b>MRC Meetings</b>	6/7/21	During 2021, the main topic of our meetings were the activation and deployment of MRC volunteers to assist with the demands of the COVID-19 pandemic. This included assistance with mass vaccination clinics, contact tracing and COVID-19 testing centers.
	6/21/21	
	7/12/21	
	8/9/21	
	9/13/21	
	10/4/21	
	11/8/21	
	12/6/21	
	12/10/21	
	12/20/21	
<b>ERC Meetings</b>	6/24/21	In 2021, the main topic of discussion in our ERC meetings was to create an After-Action Report in regard to the Region's preparation for mass vaccination plans and execution. The purpose of the report is to evaluate areas of improvement and areas of strengths when planning for future vaccine clinics.
	7/8/21	
	8/5/21	
	9/2/21	
	10/7/21	
	11/4/21	
	12/2/21	
	12/10/21	
<b>ESF-8 Meetings</b>	6/16/21	In 2021, ESF-8 meetings served as a platform to speak to state level entities, such as DEMHS and DPH, to inform them about the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic at the local level. It also served as a platform for the hospitals to update local and state sectors on the current condition of hospitals as the surge of COVID continued.
	8/18/21	
	9/15/21	
	10/20/21	
	12/15/21	

