

## The Town of Rocky Hill - Masks Requirement

On August 5, 2021, Governor Ned Lamont signed Executive Order No. 13A relating to the COVID-19 emergency declarations. This Executive Order provides municipal leaders with the option of requiring masks be worn in indoor public places within their towns for all individuals regardless of vaccination status.

The Town of Rocky Hill wanting to slow the spread of the Delta variant amongst its residents and the business community of Rocky Hill, required the wearing of face masks or face coverings in all public, indoor settings regardless of vaccination status. Since August 20, 2021, the Town of Rocky Hill has had in place a Masks Requirement Order that all individuals shall be required to wear a mask or cloth face covering at all times while in public indoor settings, regardless of vaccination status. This Order extended to all public indoor spaces including, but not limited to: businesses, inclusive of restaurants and bars, retail stores, professional buildings and complexes, other commercial enterprises and the like; museums and historical structures open to the public; congregate living settings, including nursing homes, senior housing, group homes and shelters; health care facilities; indoor entertainment venues or any portion of an outdoor entertainment venue that is indoors, such as indoor suites, conference rooms/ gathering spaces and restrooms; public transportation, including waiting areas for public transportation, except for outdoor waiting areas; schools, including elementary and secondary schools, technical colleges, two-year colleges, colleges and universities; and houses of worship.

The Connecticut General Assembly recently has given legislative approval to renew Governor Ned Lamont COVID-19 public health emergency powers and declarations through February 15, 2022. Thus including Executive Order No. 13A, Mask Rule, which provides municipal leaders with the option of requiring masks be worn in indoor public places within their towns for all individuals regardless of vaccination status.

Therefore, starting on September 30, 2021, the Town of Rocky Hill Masks Requirement Order as it relates to individuals wearing a mask or cloth face covering at all times while in public indoor settings will read as follows:

1. In accordance with Executive Order No. 13A, requires unvaccinated persons age two and above to wear a mask when indoors and when they cannot maintain a distance of six feet from other persons and when they do not have a medical exemptions.
2. In accordance with Executive Order No. 13A, to follow any mask wearing orders that are issued as deemed necessary by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health.
3. In accordance with Executive Order No. 13A, permits private and public entities to set their own mask rules for locations under their ownership and control.

4. The Town of Rocky Hill municipal buildings will be open to the public for business. Visitors to the municipal buildings will be required to wear a mask.
5. Vaccinated Town staff working in office settings do not need to wear masks as a general matter. However, masks will be worn while interacting in-person with members of the public, and in elderly and childcare settings.
6. Town staff, and boards and commissions will have at their discretion to choose whether to have a meeting as an “in person meeting” or as a virtual meeting.
7. The Library and Police Department will continue to follow its protocols.
8. Masks do not need to be worn when working outdoors.

The TERM of this Order shall remain in effect until the expiration of Governor Lamont's Emergency Declaration and Executive Order No. 13A on February 15, 2022, or as may be extended from time to time by the Connecticut General Assembly, or as terminated by the Town of Rocky Hill.

AGAIN, THIS ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT AT MIDNIGHT ON THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.

It is highly recommended that those who are not vaccinated, get vaccinated, and that all individuals remember to practice the 3 W's:

1. Wash your hands.
2. Wear a mask
3. Watch your distances.

Stay Safe,

John Mehr – Town Manager, Town of Rocky Hill  
DATED THIS 30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2021.