



**CITY OF NEW HAVEN**  
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<b>TO:</b>	All Permit Holders and Event Organizers
<b>CC:</b>	Permitting & Reservation Staff
<b>FROM:</b>	Rebecca Bombero, Deputy CAO
<b>DATE:</b>	August 3, 2021
<b>RE:</b>	<b>COVID-19 &amp; City of New Haven Events and Permit Guidelines and Cancelations</b>

On March 10, 2020 Governor issued a **Civil Preparedness and Public Health Emergency Declaration**, which extended through 2021. On May 19, 2021 the Governor lifted the sector rules related to COVID with the exception of mask wearing requirements. [DPH has released guidance as it relates to mask wearing](#) that underscores when it necessary to wear a mask which includes the “Need to wear a mask if they are asked to do so in a public or private establishment, if required by their employer in their workplace, or when organizers require masks at any event.” This weekend, DPH issued an alert, strongly recommending everyone wear a mask indoors and outdoors in crowds.

The City has reviewed current guidance. The last guidance issued in July was based upon the continuation of low transmission rates. Unfortunately, case counts are on the raise with nearly a 100% increase over the past week. Because of these factors at this time:

- The City of New Haven will continue to require masks inside City owned or operated building for all individuals
- For outdoor events that are open to the public the City will require organizers to submit COVID safety plans that include mask wearing requirements when not seated and socially distant. The Health Department may waive the outdoor mask requirement on a case by case basis based on the current case positivity rates, vaccination penetration and event details.
- For private outdoor events groups will be responsible for setting their own COVID safety guidelines but are encouraged to review our COVID plan questions to help aid in their planning

**NEW APPLICANTS**

For indoor events and those open to the public permits will be required to include a narrative to demonstrate compliance including:

- a plan for sanitation/cleanliness to prevent the spread of germs;
- a plan to make available face coverings for those who do not have them;
- and efforts to ensure social distancing

Please allow at least two weeks to review your application. As we continue to monitor the relevant health indicators the City may again revoke permits in the interest of public health and public safety.

We understand that for large scale events a considerable amount of time, planning and expenditures occur, as we continue to monitor public health conditions more stringent protocols may be required again in the future. We recommend that you visit the CDC guidance as it relates to planning an event to help guide your decisions

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html> and;

- 1) Evaluate your planning needs and determine how far prior to your event you need to make a decision on whether to hold your event and communicate that date to the City so that we can offer you guidance as appropriate based upon the current public health and sector guidance.
- 2) Start gathering participant data, develop communication protocols and establish plans to help mitigate any potential impacts on the event.
- 3) Please be aware that based upon CDC guidance and the current conditions, more requirements may be imposed for events going forward, which may include those recommendations in the CDC guidance, including, but not limited to, additional hand washing stations, cleaning protocols and increased police and fire/EMS requirements.

For questions or reviews please contact:

Rebecca Bombero, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

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