



October 26, 2020

Dear Cannondale Campus Resident, Family, Friend or Community Partner,

COVID-19 viral infection remains on a steady rise throughout the U.S. and, despite a state-wide positivity rate of only 2.2% - 2.9% reported today, Connecticut hospitalizations have increased to 270 individuals. This is an increase of 80 covid-related hospitalizations in one week. Also noteworthy is the rate of rising infection among neighboring areas such as Norwalk – now at 5% effective today. With many individuals moving gatherings indoors and increased rates of illness, The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is advising senior care facilities state-wide (as well as seniors at home) to increase their infection control vigilance.

The one positive caregiver who tested positive last week remains on home isolation. As of this writing, all employees at The Greens, as well as all contracted workers, have been re-tested and all remain negative. All residents with potential for exposure (our Evergreen memory care residents) were also tested and all of these residents also remain negative. There are currently zero symptomatic residents and no new occurrences of staff with exposure to COVID-19.

Effective immediately, we will increase staff testing (including all contracted workers) to 100% of staff each week for a period of at least three weeks. Effective last Friday, we re-instituted visitation restriction at The Greens. Only essential caregivers and compassionate care visits are allowed inside the building. Note that compassionate care and end-of-life visitation requires approval from me or the Director of Wellness. All families may still visit at the Greens outside but are required to wear a mask at all times. Out trips, whereby the resident remains in the car, is also permissible but we ask that our residents not enter a public place while on an out trip. Should a resident become exposed to a public place, they will be subject to a 14-day observational period in their room upon return from this potential exposure. I appreciate your ongoing patience with these infection control measures and hope you agree that they are prudent to maintain the safety of your loved ones. As always, we remain very aware of the negative effects of infection control measures and will relax them as soon as conditions allow. Allowing unrestricted visitation from you, in particular, is a very high priority to us all.

As test results continue to show no COVID infection inside The Greens, we are glad to maintain many of the social events and programs re-introduced over the summer such as beauty shop/nail salon services, Face Time sessions, piano concerts, movies, sing-alongs, dining room bingo, outdoor concerts, walking club, morning enhanced fitness, history and music lectures (broadcasted in from local experts), passport to adventure, dental services, podiatry services and much more continue to be effectuated safely. Group dining will also continue. We have, in fact, added sit down breakfast just last week and the positive feedback from our residents dining together, and in a social setting, is undeniable. Note that memory care residents and those living in our Residence building have been enjoying their meals in small groups since the beginning of the pandemic.

Another socially distanced event being planned is our annual Holiday Gala, now scheduled for Friday December 18<sup>th</sup>. You will soon be receiving formal invitations for you to participate by:

- Creating a “Holiday Greeting” video message - this will become part of a video montage we shall present at the party.
- Watching the band and opening celebrations from 3:30 – 4:30 - broadcasted live.
- Face Timing your loved ones to offer a more private way to connect

Of course, there will be a gourmet, 5-course meal, live music and lots of surprises for our residents.

In closing, please remember to take good care of yourself. These are trying times that will soon pass and, I am sure, will improve more quickly by us all coming together. Our infection control measures and everyday actions that you can take during the pandemic are summarized below, as well as information to participate in resident/family Face Time sessions and our weekly Zoom informational session.

Very Truly Yours,

Ronald V Bucci  
Senior Executive Director

### **Staying Connected**

Face-Time - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944a9af2fa5fd0-facetime>

Or call 203-761-1191 or email Elanit Linder at [elinder@wiltonmeadows.com](mailto:elinder@wiltonmeadows.com).

ZOOM Info Sessions - Join via desktop/mobile device or dial in **each Tuesday at 2:00 pm.**

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83159586119>

**Meeting ID: 831 5958 6119**

**One tap mobile**

**+13126266799,,83159586119# US (Chicago)**

**+16465588656,,83159586119# US (New York)**

#### **Dial by your location**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

**+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)**

**+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)**

**+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**

**+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)**

**+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**

**Meeting ID: 831 5958 6119**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83159586119>**

### **The Greens at Cannondale Infection Control Measures**

- Measuring the temperature/ oxygen levels of all residents and patients each day.
- Staff and visitor screening including screening questions and temperature checks.
- All staff and visitors are mandated to wear masks unless behind a closed door.

- Ongoing deep-cleaning with EPA- approved agents to kill Corona viruses and a professionally contracted antiviral spray treatment in resident rooms/common areas related to a suspected case.
- Frequent written and verbal (in multiple languages) in-servicing to staff detailing our policies.
- Limiting activity programs social distanced programs only
- Restricting delivery personnel from the building - all essential deliveries are "drop and go" with special arrangements for pharmacies. Deliveries are either treated or staged to minimize the chance of transmission through mail and packages.
- Any resident who is suspicious of COVID infection will be placed on isolation until further instructions are received from their physician. These residents will be cared for by staff using full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- New move-ins must receive a negative COVID test prior to move in and most be quarantined per their doctor's orders.
- Regular staff testing
- Restricted visitation for non essential caregivers and or compassionate caregivers.

**Everyday actions that you can take to minimize your chance of COVID-19 related infection or illness:**

- Wear a well fitting mask while in public places or at any point when a six foot distance is not possible.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and keep your distance from others if you are sick.
- Individuals who do not feel well should remain home and contact their Primary Care Physician.
- If you have been in contact with someone suspected of having Covid-19, you must self-quarantine and call your local physician or health department immediately.
- Adhere to the CT Travel Advisory
- Wash your hands vigorously and often using soap and hot water.
- Use hand sanitizer when available in addition to hand washing but not in place of it.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose with your hands.
- Cover sneezes and coughs with a tissue or your elbow and not your hand.
- Keep home and personal surfaces (especially bedside tables, surfaces in the bathroom, and toys for children) clean by wiping them down with a household disinfectant.
- Adhere to The Connecticut Travel Advisory" see:

"http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus" [www.ct.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus) "Connecticut Travel Advisory in Effect"

- Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious foods.
- Stay informed through reliable information sources

The Connecticut Department of Public Health -

Call 2-1-1 and Text "CTCOVID" to 898211 or visit

[www.ct.gov/coronavirus](http://www.ct.gov/coronavirus)

The Center for Disease Control -

[www.cdc.gov/ncov](http://www.cdc.gov/ncov)