



January 2022 Newsletter

Happy New Year to All and Welcome to My 1st Newsletter of 2022!

COVID

Given the recent jump in positive COVID test results, the DC Department of Health issued a [public health alert on 12/29](#) with a list of recommendations to reduce community transmission. Below is a flow chart from Dutchess County which explains when and for how long individuals should isolate or quarantine when either testing positive or getting exposed to someone who tested positive.



Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD FACEP
Commissioner
Dept. of Behavioral & Community Health

COVID-19 UPDATE

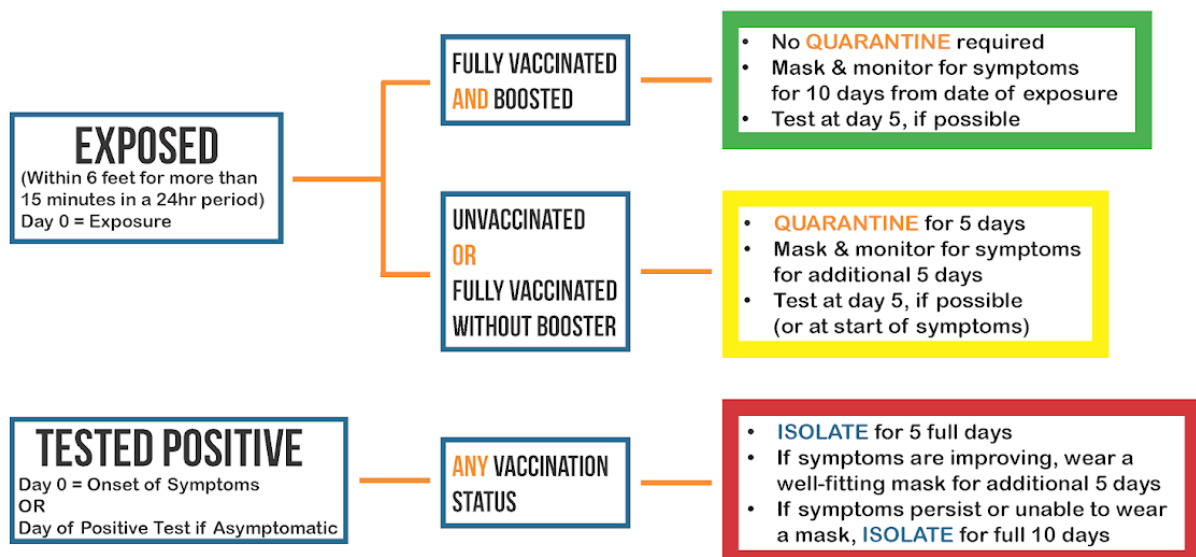
1/6/2022

QUARANTINE & ISOLATION GUIDANCE

For individuals who are NOT immunocompromised

QUARANTINE You were in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 and you must stay home.

ISOLATE You tested positive for COVID-19 and must stay home AND away from others in your household, including using separate restrooms, if possible.



NYS and DC have been sending municipalities a limited set of free COVID test kits and KN95 masks to distribute to residents. We've had 2 disbursements to-date and will notify the residents through [social media](#) and [email](#) as soon as we receive the next shipment. Our plan is to (1) deliver a small number of kits to homebound residents and (2) distribute the remaining on a first-come, first-serve basis on the Sunday afternoon following shipment at the Village Hall. We will continue to limit distribution to 1 per household until the supply constraint eases.

Because our EMS and FD volunteers are routinely in close contact with our sickest residents, we have purchased, on the open market, a set of test kits to be used by our volunteers to protect themselves and the residents they service.

While kits can be purchased at stores and on-line, supplies are limited. However, the federal government has recently done the following to increase the availability of at-home COVID testing: (1) private insurers have been ordered to cover a portion of the cost of over the counter Covid-19 tests purchased after Jan. 15, and (2) [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov) is now available for every household to order 4 free at-home test kits for delivery by the USPS.

Winter Weather

For the 4 months of **December through March each year, parking is prohibited on village streets between the hours of 1 AM and 6 AM** so the highway crew can plow and salt the roads, as necessary. Violators will be ticketed and possibly towed.

Matt Hurst, who is the full-time caretaker of Tribute Gardens' properties throughout the Village, is a part-time employee of the Village, responsible for plowing our sidewalks. The vehicle he had been using suffered a fatal failure last year and so we have purchased a new tractor, using money provided to us by the NYS Consolidated Highway Improvement Program ("CHIPS"). We also attached the old Calcium Chloride dispenser so he is able to salt the sidewalks, as well. However, with the thawing and subsequent refreezing that routinely occurs, I'm asking residents who have sidewalks in front of their property to monitor them and, if possible, treat them with additional salt or sand to keep them safe for pedestrians.

Blackboard Connect

As we've been reporting for the past few months, we are switching our notification system from GovDelivery to [Blackboard Connect](#) because of its

additional ability to notify residents by physical address of emergencies such as water shutdown, tree blockages, road repairs, etc. Alert messages will be sent to landlines, cell phones and email accounts. While we have been able to import 611 resident addresses from the White Pages, those who wish to continue automatically receiving notifications, such as this newsletter or board meeting info, must sign up on-line by going to villageofmillbrook.bbcportal.com. To-date 127 residents have signed up.

Bridge Replacement

Deputy Mayor Contino and I had a kickoff meeting with DC Department of Public Works to review their plan to replace the bridge which crosses the waterfall on Stanford Road. Since this is a county road, the full cost will be covered by DC. The new bridge will look similar to the current bridge except we asked for an additional 4' to be added to the width to accommodate a pedestrian/bicycle lane. The schedule is to do the planning this year, get necessary permits and easements in 2023 and do the actual replacement in the Spring/Summer of 2024 over a 4–6-month time period. I'll keep you posted of updates.

Millbrook Restorations

The Millbrook Restorations Committee is chartered with helping village businesses make improvements to their properties that are consistent with other village architecture. While operating independently of any government or foundation jurisdiction, the committee provides grants to businesses to assist in the cost of any eligible renovations. The money is supplied by Tribute Gardens and held in a Village account. As a member of the committee, I notify the Board of Trustees and the public of any financial decisions prior to disbursement of funds. As I reported at the last board meeting, the committee has recently agreed to provide Marona's Market \$40K, covering about 1/3 of the projected cost, to renovate the back building and entrance to their store.

Turkey Vultures

There was a recent complaint about swarms of these large birds landing throughout the Village and causing damage to asphalt rooftops. While they usually reside in some of the large evergreens in the Village, they do converge on roadkill and opened trash bins. Our Animal Control Officer, Tony DeBonis, reports that these birds are protected and migratory. He plans to contact both IES and the DEC to determine a possible action plan. In the meantime, please keep trash cans and dumpster lids closed between uses.

Budget for 2022–2023

The Village budget process begins next month and the Clerk will soon be sending out a schedule to review each department's proposal at special board meetings that will be open to the public. Our schedule is to hold separate reviews by-department, consolidate inputs, and have a public hearing by mid-April so we can approve the budget before May 1st. Stay tuned for more details.

Meet the Staff



Peter Doro

Trustee

845-677-3939 option 6, option 5

pdtrusteevom@gmail.com

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve as Village Trustee. I was born and raised in Millbrook, so it is truly a blessing to be raising my own family in our quaint little village. I'm looking forward to serving the community and continuing the progress and good work of the current Board and Mayor, as

well as prior administrations. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns!"

Karen McLaughlin

Senior Account Clerk

"Hi, I am Karen P McLaughlin, Senior Account Clerk. With 20+ years as a Municipal Finance Officer, I oversee and assist the Clerk/Treasurer with the Budget, financial activity of the Village and the NYS Annual Report. Currently I sit on the board of directors for New York Government Finance Officers and New York Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System. Working with village means a lot to me as Millbrook is also my home."



Village Board Meetings

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month

Millbrook Firehouse

20 Front Street, Millbrook, NY

FEB
9
6:00
PM

NEXT BOT MEETING

Visit our [meeting docs page](#) for [agendas](#) and documents relating to the upcoming meeting.

**If you have questions or comments, don't hesitate to contact me
Mayor Tim Collopy villageofmillbrookmayor@gmail.com or 845-677-3939
option 5**

Copyright© 2022 Village of Millbrook, NY, All rights reserved. Website: villageofmillbrookny.com | Village of Millbrook – 35 Merritt Ave., PO Box 349, Millbrook, NY 12545 | 845-677-3939

