Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

WAUSHARA COUNTY COVID-19 STATUS UPDATE

DATE: 9/18/2020 2:34 PM

Wisconsin Current Situation Update	
Wisconsin Confirmed Positive Total Case Count	**97,279 (+2,533)**
Wisconsin Confirmed Negative Total Case Count	**1,315,258 (+10,534)**
Wisconsin Hospitalizations (Ever Hospitalized)	**6,569 (+47) (7%)**
Wisconsin Total Deaths	**1,238 (+7)**
All data are laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 that the Department of Health Services (DHS) freezes once a day to verify and ensure that they are reporting accurate information. These numbers are the official state numbers, though counties may report their own totals independent of DHS. Combining the DHS and local totals may result in inaccurate totals.	
Waushara County Current Situation Update	
Waushara County Confirmed Positive Total Case Count	***266**
Waushara County Recovered Case Count	**216**
Waushara County Confirmed Negative Total Case Count	**5,409**
Deaths	**2**
*The Waushara County Positive Case Count indicates all lab-confirmed cases, including people who have recovered or passed away. *All data is current as of 2:00pm on the date posted at the top of this document. The Waushara County Confirmed Negative Case Count is the number of lab-confirmed negative test results that our health department has received information on. This number is not the total number of people that have been tested in Waushara County.*	

Case Updates and Monitoring
Wisconsin State Cases:

- Information on case counts statewide can be found here.
- State and local health departments are conducting contact investigations with those who may have been exposed to the confirmed cases.
- Exposed individuals are being monitored for signs and symptoms of illness.

Local Response Updates

Ongoing:
- Public Health is identifying and contacting anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19. Close contacts are asked to quarantine themselves for 14 days from their exposure and will be monitored for fever and respiratory symptoms.
- Public Health and Emergency Management are working with key health care providers and other stakeholders to ensure a coordinated multi-agency response as the situation evolves.
- Providing resources and consultation to schools, long-term care, and businesses to help prepare the community to respond to COVID-19 concerns.

Wisconsin State Situational Update

September 18, 2020
- New from DHS:
  - Essential Visitor Guidance for Nursing Homes

- o DHS Releases Halloween Guidance
  - o Be Aware of a Text Messaging Scam Targeting FoodShare Members and Applicants
  - o COVID-19 Testing Update - Sept. 17, 2020
  - o Wisconsin Awarded $16.7 Million Federal Grant to Counter Additions to Opioids and Stimulants
  - o Information About US HHS Rapid COVID-19 Tests for Assisted Living Facilities
- Milwaukee's Unified Emergency Operations Center Has Launched the TestUp MKE Campaign
- Coronavirus in Wisconsin Schools: Data from USA Today and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel
  - o Educational Facility investigation data on DHS webpage
- Public Service Commission of Wisconsin Votes to Extend COVID-19 Utility Disconnection Moratorium to Nov. 1

Surveillance Highlights

- Forest County has soared in recent weeks to have the highest COVID infection rate in Wisconsin
- Nursing homes, care facilities seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases
- Brown County teacher dies after being hospitalized with COVID-19
- 119 students, 10 teachers in Kenosha County in quarantine after exposure to coronavirus
- Baraboo School District will not disclose number of COVID-19 cases
- Why Wisconsin's state and local coronavirus updates differ day to day. The timing of COVID-19 pandemic reporting by health departments highlights the importance of trends compared to single-day numbers

September 17, 2020
- Trump Administration Releases COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Strategy
  - o COVID-19 Vaccination Program Interim Playbook for Jurisdiction Operations
- New Call Center Expands Support for People in Emotional Distress

Surveillance Highlights

- COVID-19 cases have plummeted at Notre Dame since a two-week campus shutdown. Can that work for other universities struggling to contain the virus's spread?
- Wisconsin COVID-19 cases rise as September spike hits college towns
- PHMDC statement about decision to hold Badger football games
- Beloit College to test all students weekly for COVID-19. 20% of faculty and staff will also be sample-tested on a weekly basis
- Eau Claire County Administration Committee approves health orders ordinance
- Menomonie City Council to consider COVID ordinances
- Coronavirus cases at 19 schools in Washington and Ozaukee Counties
- 'I really didn't feel comfortable going back': some Wisconsin teachers quit, or retire early, due to COVID-19 concerns. Early data shows an uptick in teacher retirements, while younger teachers quit for family, health reasons
- US health officials say CDC is developing new coronavirus testing guidance for screening at schools, businesses

COVID-19 Six Month Report: All information shared from March 16 – September 16, 2020 can be found on this document.

Recommended Action for Residents
Prevention:

The public should follow simple steps to prevent illness and avoid exposure to this virus including:
- The CDC recommends wearing cloth face-coverings while out in public. IMPORTANT: This will NOT protect you from contracting the virus. Wearing a cloth face-covering will help prevent you from unknowingly spreading COVID-19. Surgical masks or N-95 respirators are NOT recommended as these are critical supplies needed by healthcare workers.
- Staying home.

- Avoid social gatherings with people of all ages (including playdates and sleepovers, parties, large family dinners, visitors in your home, non-essential workers in your house);
- Frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes;
- Avoiding touching your face; and
- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Follow these steps for how to protect your family.

Social Distancing:

- Informational Flyer detailing why social distancing is crucial for prevention and slowing of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- FAQs on mass gatherings.
- WI Dept. of Health Services (DHS) prohibits gatherings of over 10 people in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

If you are ill:

- The CDC issued a bulletin that discourages the public from misusing non-pharmaceutical chloroquine phosphate (a chemical used in home aquariums) to self-medicate COVID-19 symptoms.
- If you have traveled to an at risk location (see Travel Considerations) or been in contact with someone who is known to have COVID-19 and you have symptoms, like fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should contact your health care provider for possible testing and stay home.
- People should call ahead before arriving at a health care facility for testing.
- If you do not have a primary care provider, call 211 for direction on who you should call and where you should go to be tested (See Additional Resources).

Travel Considerations

International Travel:

- CDC recommends that travelers avoid all nonessential travel to China, Iran, most European countries, United Kingdom and Ireland. Most foreign nationals who have been in one of these countries during the previous 14 days will not be allowed to enter the United States.
- CDC recommends that older adults and people of any age with serious chronic medical conditions should consider postponing nonessential travel to most global destinations.

Domestic Travel:

- CDC Issues Domestic Travel Advisory urging residents of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut to refrain from non-essential domestic travel for 14 days effective 3-28-2020.
- CDC does not generally issue advisories or restrictions for travel within the United States. However, cases of COVID-19 have been reported in many states, and some areas are experiencing community spread of the disease.
- Crowded travel settings, like airports, may increase your risk of exposure to COVID-19, if there are other travelers with COVID-19. There are several things you should consider when deciding whether it is safe for you to travel.
- **Things to consider before travel:**
- Is COVID-19 spreading where you're going?
- Will you or your travel companion(s) be in close contact with others during your trip?
- Are you or your travel companion(s) at higher risk of severe illness if you do get COVID-19?
- Do you have a plan for taking time off from work or school, in case you get exposed to, or are sick with, COVID-19?
- Do you live with someone who is older or has a severe chronic health condition?
- Is COVID-19 spreading where you live?

Cruise Travel:

- Cruise ship travel is now considered traveling to a Level-3 affected area. All persons returning from cruise ship travel will need to self-isolate for 14 days.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends all persons defer any travel on cruise ships, including river cruises, worldwide because of the increased risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, the virus that causes COVID-19, onboard ships.

Community Closures and Cancelations

- For most up to date list of business operations updates due to COVID-19, please visit the Waushara Area Chamber of Commerce
- Effective Friday, March 20th, Waushara County Meal Sites are closed. The Department of Aging will be offering home delivered meals.

Additional Resources

- Interim Guidance for Implementing Safety Practices for Critical Infrastructure Workers Who May Have Had Exposure to a Person with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19
- Employee Rights Paid Sick Leave and Expanded Family and Medical Leave Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act
- Wisconsin DHS has added a COVID-19: Resilient Wisconsin webpage
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) releases COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Information and Resources for help navigating mental health struggles
- FAQs on Health Privacy surrounding COVID-19
- UW-Extension has guidance for Navigating Coronavirus for Small Businesses
- Wisconsin has created a new website for the public to access information from multiple state agencies. You can subscribe via email for updates.
- WI Department of Health and Human Services
- If you feel overwhelmed or frightened, contact the SAMHSA Disaster Helpline: call DistressLine at 1-800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

- Please watch for our local community updates through the Waushara County Health Department website and follow our social media accounts: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram @WausharaHealth.
- If you have immediate questions, please call the United Way's Resource Line to speak with a trained specialist. It is available 24/7 for non-emergency questions about COVID-19 and referrals to local health and human services.
    - Dial 211 on your phone
    - Text "COVID19" to 211-211 to receive links to CDC information.
    - Visit http://211.org/

or contact Waushara County Health Department during business hours (M-F; 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM) at 920-787-6590.