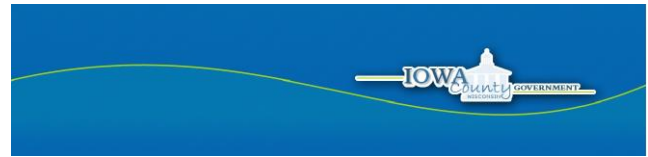**IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**
303 W. Chapel Street
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Dodgeville, WI 53533-1314

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www.iowacounty.org

April 1, 2020 4:30pm

For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department
Director/Health Officer Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN

Iowa County COVID-19 Update

Iowa County – The Iowa County COVID 19 Response Team needs each of you to help us reinforce the message in our community to **STAY HOME ---- STAY SAFE --- SAVE LIVES**. By staying home and away from other people, you protect the people you love, those who are most at risk, and those who work to provide our essential needs like healthcare, food, and utilities. It is very likely there are undiagnosed cases in our county and people may be unknowingly transmitting the virus to others even if they are not exhibiting symptom.

Thank you for doing your part in following the **#SaferAtHome** order.
  o   Check out #SaferAtHome FAQs
  o   Check out #SaferAtHome fact sheet

Helping find healthy ways to cope and stay connected is more important than ever. Resilient Wisconsin offers tools and resources for building resilience in all parts of our lives. This website is a place to go for self-care resources and support such learning how to recognize and deal with stress, invest in self-care, and safely stay connected and care for others during this pandemic. The site includes hotlines to a number of amazing resources such as a National Disaster Distress helpline, HOPELINE text service, Veterans Crisis Hotline, and a Caregiver Help Desk.
Remember, you are not alone. We are in this together. https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/resilient.htm

Iowa County Case Update

3	Positive Test Results in Iowa County
94	Negative Test Results in Iowa County
1,550	Positive Test Results in Wisconsin
18,819	Negative Test Results in Wisconsin
24	Deaths in Wisconsin

For a broader picture of the number of cases, see https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm

Announcements

- **Guidance for businesses and employers for responding to COVID-19 and Emergency Order #12.** We appreciate the efforts that are being made by county businesses in complying with the #SaferAtHome. Emergency Order 12, Safer at Home Order, states that "Essential Businesses and Operations" means health care and public health operations, human services operations, essential infrastructure operations, and essential

governmental functions as well as "any business or worker identified in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, Memorandum on Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers during COVID-19 Response,"

- o In addition to a number of other businesses, with certain conditions. Businesses are encouraged to follow these best practices related the development of a COVID-19 Response Plan for the safety of their employees and their families.
- o Be sure to check out the DHS website https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/employers.htm The site also includes resources for faith based organizations https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community.htm
- **Elections Commission seeking Volunteers** Citizen involvement is essential to our election process, and with the potential spread of COVID-19, we anticipate many veteran poll workers who faithfully serve every Election Day may not serve this year due to their age and high risk to COVID-19 exposure. Poll workers do everything from check-in voters, help people register to vote, check photo IDs and process absentee ballots. Please click here for more details from the Wisconsin Elections Commission. Local clerks will provide poll workers with training prior to Election Day. Please note the Wisconsin Elections Commission and the Department of Health Services are also developing protocols to make the polls as safe as possible for voters and poll workers.
- **What to do if you are sick?**
  If you have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose or headache
  Isolate yourself at home and call your regular health care provider.
  - o They will ask about your symptoms, your recent travel history, and will determine if you need to be tested. If your symptoms are severe (trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or inability to arouse, bluish lips or face) or you feel like you need medical care, call before you go to a doctor's office, urgent care, or emergency room.
  - o If you have a medical emergency, call 911 and tell the dispatcher about your symptoms. This will allow health care providers to prepare adequately
- **Self-Care and When to Seek Medical Care:** residents who are not critically ill, should stay home and manage their symptoms.
- Upland Hills Health Hospital and Clinics:
  - o **Effective 3/30** - UHH Clinics in Dodgeville, Mineral Point and Mt. Horeb will be open 9 AM-3 PM Monday-Friday. These hours will remain in effect until further notice.
  - o Effective 3/25 - No Visitor Policy at Hospital and Nursing & Rehabilitation Center

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Important Sources of Information

- **211 Wisconsin** is an easy and helpful resource for COVID 19 questions. Simply call 211 from your phone https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/
- For localized information

Please monitor the following Social Media sites:
Iowa County Public Health on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/iowacountyhealthdepartment/
Upland Hills Health on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/UplandHillsHealthHospital/
Iowa County Emergency Management on Twitter - https://twitter.com/ICEMWI
Iowa County Emergency Management on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/icemwi/

Monitor the following websites:
Iowa County Health Department https://www.iowacounty.org/departments/HealthDepartment
Upland Hills Health https://www.uplandhillshealth.org/patient-visitors/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information/
WI Department of Health Services (DHS) https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html
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