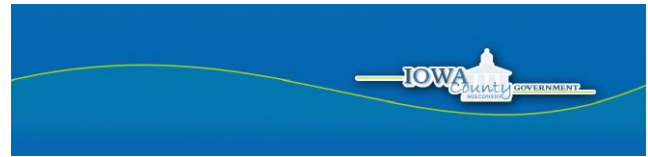


IOWA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

303 W. Chapel Street
Suite 2200
Dodgeville, WI 53533-1314

Phone: (608) 930-9870
Fax: (608) 937-0501



www.iowacounty.org

May 1, 2020 4:00pm

For Immediate Release

Iowa County Health Department

Director/Health Officer Debbie Siegenthaler RN, MSN

New Order Opportunities, Parks to Open

Iowa County – It's been a long haul, practicing physical distancing and strong prevention measures, and the hard work is slowing the spread of COVID-19 in Iowa County, evidenced by our case numbers. This doesn't mean we should ease up on the gas pedal. We don't want to have a backslide. COVID-19 doesn't spread itself. People spread it. We don't have a cure or a vaccine yet. Our best tool is isolation for those we know are sick and physically distancing ourselves from others. Each of us represents an opportunity to interrupt the transmission of this virus. If we start to reduce our prevention measures, our risk of getting sick with COVID-19 will go up.

On Monday, April 27, Gov. Tony Evers announced expanded opportunities for non-essential businesses. All businesses may now do curbside drop-off and pick-up of goods and animals; this includes businesses such as dog groomers, small engine repair shops, and upholstery shops. The order also allows outdoor recreational rentals such as boats, golf carts, kayaks, ATVs, and other similar recreational vehicles. Additionally, automatic or self-service car washes can operate. All of these businesses must operate free of contact with customers by providing payment options online or over the phone, enact proper disinfecting practices, and must be able to be performed while maintaining physical distancing.

Additionally, Gov. Evers issued a release detailing the reopening of 34 Wisconsin State Parks and Forests on May 1, 2020, with special conditions. Before making your way to one of Wisconsin's beautiful spots, call 1-888-305-0398 to get your 2020 State Park pass, which will be required starting today, May 1. Camping, group camps and shelters will remain closed until May 26. Bathrooms will be closed, some of the parks have capacity limits, and a reminder, you'll need a state park pass, so plan ahead. And don't forget to stay 6 feet away from people who are not in your household! More information on the reopening and remaining restrictions is available [here](#).

With the warm weather, the opening of some state parks, and fishing season right around the corner, the importance of staying safe while engaging in outdoor activities remains. Continue to maintain physical distancing at all times, wear a cloth face covering and wash your hands or use hand sanitizer and sanitize surfaces frequently touched by others bit.ly/3cSJKuu. Purchase items you need in your essential shopping trip in your home community. What does home community mean? Use your best judgement; stay in general areas, near where your kids go to school, where you grocery shop, and your place of worship. Strive to make no additional stops outside of your community, other than your destination.

Along with physical distancing, please continue strong everyday prevention measures. Wash your hands often and cover your sneezes and coughs with a tissue or your elbow. **Wear a cloth face cover if you go out in public.** Cloth face covers are an additional tool to prevent people who don't have symptoms from spreading the virus. For more information and [visit the CDC website](#) for instructions on how to make your own.

Case Update

- 7 Positive Test Results in Iowa County
- 280 Negative Test Results in Iowa County
- 7,314 Positive Test Results in Wisconsin
- 72,566 Negative Test Results in Wisconsin
- 1,544 (23%) Hospitalizations
- 327 Deaths in Wisconsin

For a broader picture of the number of cases and additional detail see
<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm>

Announcements

- Testing capacity has increased in Iowa County. If you have or develop symptoms of COVID-19, including fever, cough, difficulty breathing, chills, shortness of breath, or sore throat, contact your healthcare provider.
- **[Upland Hills Health Hospital and Clinics:](#)**
 - *UHH Clinics are open in Dodgeville, Mineral Point, Mt. Horeb and Montfort.* Hours: 9 AM-3 PM Monday-Friday.
 - *UHH is not accepting delivery of flowers or gifts.* Residents and staff appreciate the thoughtfulness. **[Donations to the COVID-19 Relief Fund](#)** will help fund new supplies and protocols for staff and patients safely.
 - *UHH is not accepting delivery of homemade food* at Upland Hills Health or at the UHH Nursing & Rehab Center (NRC).
 - *Food donations from the community are acceptable ONLY from a licensed restaurant, food service vendor, or catering service.* Food donations must follow the restaurant & food safety requirements. Please coordinate donations through the UHH Foundation Director, Julia Oellerich 608-930-7169.

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 COVID 19 <https://www.iowacounty.org/>

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>

--end--