

**Waushara County Health Department**  
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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 14, 2020

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In response to the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruling that invalidated the statewide Safer at Home order, the Waushara County Health Department issued local recommendations to reopen Waushara County, effective immediately and ongoing until June 1, 2020, unless revised earlier.

“These guidelines help Waushara County take the necessary steps to protect employers/employees, customers, and the public from the spread of COVID-19,” said Patti Wohlfeil, Waushara County Health Officer.

### **WAUSHARA COUNTY REOPEN RECOMMENDATIONS**

WHEREAS, in December, 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus was detected, now named COVID-19, and it has spread throughout the world, including every state in the United States;

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020, Governor Tony Evers declared a public health emergency and directed all agencies support to efforts to respond to and contain COVID-19 in Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, President Donald Trump proclaimed a National Emergency concerning COVID-19;

WHEREAS, On March 17, 2020 the Waushara County Board authorized an Emergency Declaration for Waushara County;

WHEREAS, as of April 15, 2020, 1,914,916 people around the world have tested positive for COVID-19, including 605,390 in the United States and 3,721 in Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is present throughout Wisconsin, with people testing positive for COVID-19 in 65 of 72 counties as of April 15, 2020;

WHEREAS, medical and public health experts advise that this is the crucial moment in Wisconsin for us to flatten the curve and prevent the worst case situations we have seen in other parts of the country and the world;

WHEREAS, as we work to slow the virus, we need to also work to carefully and thoughtfully speed up our economy;

NOW THEREFORE, Waushara County pursuant Chapter 252 does hereby recommend the following precautions and safety measures while reopening all businesses, organizations and activities in Waushara County recognizing the continued concern related to COVID-19:

Business operations that have public interactions:

- a. Do a wellness check of employees coming to work
- b. Limit capacity to 50% of your occupancy limit
- c. Follow 6-foot social distancing when possible
- d. Have employees wear masks when interacting with public
- e. Sanitize commonly touched surfaces frequently with an EPA approved product for novel coronavirus
- f. Consider special hours for the elderly and those who are at high risk
- g. For other recommendations refer to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) guidelines

Church services:

- a. Limit capacity to 50% of your occupancy limit
- b. Consider providing masks to those that want them
- c. Sanitize commonly touched surfaces frequently with an EPA approved product for novel coronavirus
- d. Follow 6-foot social distancing when possible

Long-Term Care Facilities (SNF/CBRF/AFH/Assisted Living/Group Homes)

- a. Visitor policies as determined by the facility in conjunction with their licensing requirements per State and Federal Rules. It is recommended that any policy include wellness check and masks if allowing visitors
- b. Employee wellness checks
- c. Follow 6-foot social distancing when possible for residents, staff and visitors
- d. Consider having employees wear masks
- e. Work with resident's employers to establish a safe return to work plan

Public Schools

- a. Will be under the direction of the State until at least June 30, 2020
- b. School buildings, facilities (including playgrounds and sports fields) remain closed to the public

Playgrounds and Pools

- a. Businesses with pools and playgrounds may reopen with safe practices
- b. Limit capacity to 50% of your occupancy limit

- c. Sanitize commonly touched surfaces frequently with an EPA approved product for novel coronavirus

#### Parks and Playgrounds

- a. Check with local municipality to determine whether open or not

#### Outdoor Activities

- a. Refer to WEDC guidelines “Outdoor Gatherings”
- b. Contact entity in charge of public space for specific limitations and/or recommendations

#### For all people living, working and coming to Waushara County

- a. Wash hands frequently
- b. Follow 6-foot social distancing when possible
- c. Wear masks when in public
- d. Stay home when feeling ill
- e. Contact your health provider when feeling ill and follow their recommendations.

These recommendations are effective May 14, 2020 and will run through June 1, 2020, unless revised earlier.

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