



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE**

### **March 17, 2020**

#### **SITUATION SUMMARY**

The Central Racine County and City of Racine Health Departments are closely monitoring an outbreak caused by a new coronavirus COVID-19 that has been detected in 70 locations internationally, including the United States. This is a rapidly evolving and dynamic situation. Local officials are committed to mitigating the coronavirus impact for Racine County residents.

#### **CURRENT COVID-19 CASES**

The health departments report one confirmed case of COVID-19 in Racine County.

#### **STATE ORDER RESTRICTING BARS AND RESTAURANTS, LIMITING GATHERINGS OF 10 OR MORE**

Governor Tony Evers has ordered the banned gatherings of 10 or more people. Further, Governor Evers ordered the closure of all bars and restaurants effective at 5 p.m. Takeout or delivery service at restaurants or bars will continue.

The City of Racine, Racine County, and Central Racine County Health Department issued the following joint statement on the state order restricting bars and restaurants:

"We recognize this order is extremely difficult and disruptive for bar and restaurant owners, employees and patrons. However, we are in an unprecedented situation and bold action is required to mitigate the impact of coronavirus and protect public health. We thank bars, restaurants, other businesses and residents for their understanding. We are all in this together, and we are all doing our part to slow the spread of the virus."

#### **OTHER STATE DEVELOPMENTS**

The State of Wisconsin reported 72 positive tests for COVID-19, 1,038 negative tests, and community spread in Dane, Milwaukee and Kenosha counties.

The current school closure order is extended until further notice.

#### **RACINE COUNTY**

Racine County today is making the following announcements:

- Jury service is suspended through April 12, 2020. Jurors summoned for this time period should not report to the Courthouse for jury service – their term will be rescheduled. For updates on juror service please visit [www.racinecounty.com/clerkofcourts](http://www.racinecounty.com/clerkofcourts).
- Racine County is immediately closing county-owned golf courses, which include Ives Grove and Browns Lake; golf clubhouses; and dog parks.

Effective Wednesday, March 18, all nonessential functions at County buildings will be closed. Anyone doing business at county buildings should call ahead and be prepared to make alternative arrangements to meeting in person.

## **CITY OF RACINE**

Racine Mayor Cory Mason is reminding residents the City does not and will not shut off your water and WE Energies has committed to not cutting off utilities during this time.

City of Racine buses continue to operate regularly and are being cleaned thoroughly every day.

Walk-in service at Racine City Hall has been suspended with the exception of the Clerk's Office. We encourage residents to call or email departments in advance. City workers are still working, but not holding public offices to curtail the spread of COVID-19

The City is suspending all public meetings of City Councils, boards, committees, and commissions until at least April 20, 2020.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

The City of Racine and the Central Racine County Health Departments have been coordinating with local area healthcare providers to ensure people tested for COVID-19 receive appropriate public health follow up. As part of this follow-up, both health departments are asking people to be isolated or quarantined based on current State and Federal guidance. The health departments will communicate risk to the public, places of business, schools and other community settings in the event that an exposure is confirmed.

## **RESOURCES**

For the most current and up to date information on COVID-19, please go to the Centers for Disease Control's website:

[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

You can also find current information on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website, which has guidance that is updated regularly for travel, self-quarantine, and school districts, among other important information:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>

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