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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE** **March 23, 2020**

### **Overview:**

Governor Evers today announced he will issue a “Safer At Home” order. Details are fluid and local officials are continuing to gather information and await further guidance from the state. More details are expected tomorrow.

Racine County, in conjunction with the Racine County Joint Information Center, has launched a new webpage that will contain all of the daily updates from the JIC as well as a host of other COVID-19 information and resources. It can be found at [www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus](http://www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus). The City of Racine has also launched a COVID-19 website for city residents, employees, residents and civic organizations – details are below.

The City of Racine Health Department reports one additional confirmed COVID-19 case, bringing the total number of confirmed cases in Racine County to five.

### **Number of coronavirus cases**

United States: 33,404

Wisconsin: 416

Racine County: 5

### **Elections**

We continue to strongly encourage residents to request a mailed absentee ballot to vote in the April 7 election. This is an easy way to make sure you protect you and your loved ones while continuing to participate in the democratic process. Residents can simply visit [www.myvote.wi.gov](http://www.myvote.wi.gov) to request their ballot.

### **Racine County**

Anyone wishing to access unemployment services should not visit the Racine County Workforce Solutions offices at 1717 Taylor Avenue. Instead, go directly to [www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben](http://www.dwd.wisconsin.gov/uiben) to apply for benefits and file claims. This site also has a variety of other information and Frequently Asked Questions regarding unemployment benefits in light of COVID-19. Those filing for unemployment should also note the state has removed the requirement to do a work search.

### **City of Racine**

The City Hall Annex will be closed to the public. City departments are still working and city staff are still in the building, but all other personnel should work remotely.

In-person absentee voting is happening at City Hall during normal business hours but not at the Clerk’s office. Public health officials and the City Clerk provide instruction to residents as they

enter the building. Elderly, people with disabilities, and individuals who may be sick are allowed and encouraged to do curbside voting.

The City Parks and Rec Department is closing playground equipment due to not being able to sanitize them properly or frequently. Public parks are NOT closed and people are encouraged to get fresh air while maintaining proper precautions such as social distancing.

The City of Racine today launched a new website to keep its residents, employees, businesses, and civic organizations informed of the latest developments and news related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. The website is available at [www.racinecoronavirus.org](http://www.racinecoronavirus.org)

The website includes the latest information about the outbreak and the city's responses to the crisis. The site also features resources to help citizens navigate their way forward as the pandemic unfolds. The website will feature regular updates about the pandemic by Racine Mayor Cory Mason and Public Health Officials. The website will be updated daily with the latest information and guidelines for the public from the city, county, and the state.

### **Public health**

As the Central Racine County and City of Racine health departments announced earlier today, licensed long-term care facilities are on lockdown with no visitors permitted. In addition, first responders are required to wear personal protective equipment. More information can be found in the [health departments' news release](#).

We're all in this together, and each and every one of us has to do our part to help slow the spread of COVID-19 so we can #FlattenTheCurve so our doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers have the opportunity to do their important work.

Reminders!

- Practice social distancing!
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands often.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

### **State of Wisconsin**

Small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic have access to low-interest federal disaster loans through the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation. Learn more by visiting <https://wedc.org/programs-and-resources/covid-19-response/>

All jury trials in Wisconsin have been postponed until at least the end of May and in-person court proceedings have been suspended statewide through at least the end of April.

Both the federal and state tax filing deadlines have been extended from April 15 to July 15.

### **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>.

Health System Hotlines:

Ascension: (833) -981-0711

Advocate Aurora: (866) 443-2584

Froedtert: (414) 805-2000.

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