

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE March 24, 2020

### Overview:

Battling COVID-19 is truly an all-hands-on-deck effort.

The Racine County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), in conjunction with local law enforcement and Fire/EMS agencies, is now accepting community donations of facemasks, including hand-sewn masks, and other personal protective equipment as part of a countywide effort to compile needed equipment to combat the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus).

Equipment can be dropped off at any fire or police station in Racine County after 6 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24. A tote box labeled for personal protective equipment donations will be located near the entrances. [See more in a news release.](#)

### Number of confirmed coronavirus cases

United States: 44,183

Wisconsin: 457

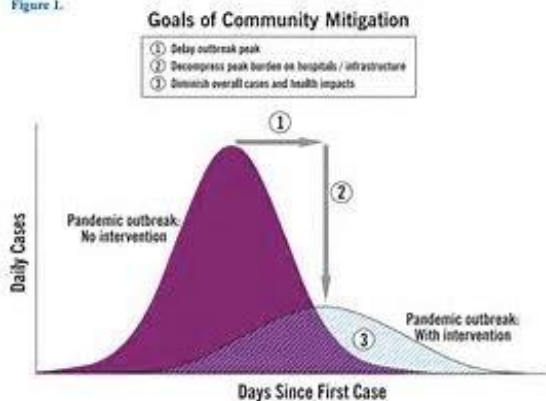
Racine County: 6

### Public health

Today, Governor Evers formally issued his “Safer at Home” order. Everyone in the State of Wisconsin is ordered to stay at their place of residence, with exceptions [outlined in the order here.](#)

This order was put in place due to a more than doubling of COVID-19 cases in Wisconsin and the United States in the past several days. The intent of order is to decrease the number of people needing COVID-19 medical care at one time so that COVID-19 cases do not significantly exceed the amount of available healthcare resources. This is the concept of community mitigation. Social distancing is paramount to address this pandemic.

Figure 1.



## **Racine County**

County officials today provided new guidelines on use of county parks, trails and campgrounds. Parks and trails remain open, but closures include all buildings at Racine County parks, playgrounds, Cliffside Park and Sanders Park campgrounds, dog parks, and golf courses. All planned special events, activities, group practices and tournaments are canceled. The River Bend Nature Center is closed, but trails remain open.

“These new guidelines seek to strike a balance between protecting public health and safety while recognizing the value of being outdoors, especially with spring upon us and warmer weather on the horizon,” County Executive Jonathan Delagrave said. “The public should enjoy walks or hikes in parks while maintaining strict social distancing and proper personal hygiene.”

[Read more in a news release.](#)

## **City of Racine**

The City of Racine Health Department reported one additional confirmed case of COVID-19, bringing the total for Racine County to six confirmed cases.

Racine City Hall is open for early voting. Through April 3, early in-person voting is available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. City officials are taking every precaution to protect the public and staff. Medical staff is greeting voters as they enter the building. An area of City Hall is blocked off for voting and staff and residents are practicing social distancing throughout the process. For those who want to vote in person but can't enter the building (such as those who are elderly, people with disabilities, or who are otherwise compromised), staff will gladly bring your ballot to you for curbside service.

The safest way to vote, of course, is in the comfort of your own home. You can still request a ballot by mail using one of three convenient options:

- 1) email a request to [clerks@cityofracine.org](mailto:clerks@cityofracine.org)
- 2) text your request to 262-822-9692
- 3) submit your request online at [myvote.wi.gov](http://myvote.wi.gov).

To submit your request, you must send your first name, last name, date of birth, copy of a photo ID, and your mailing address. Applications must be received by the clerk no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 2.

## **Resources**

For local updates on the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit [www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus](http://www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus).

For national 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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