



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media contact: Mark Schaaf (262) 977-1363

RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE **March 31, 2020**

Overview

Racine County municipalities are in need of poll workers - please consider contacting your local town, village or city clerk to serve at the polls during the April 7 election. Heavy precautions will be taken to ensure poll workers are safe and protected.

Another reminder that the deadline to request a mailed absentee ballot for the spring election is **5 p.m. Thursday, April 2**. This is the safest way to cast your ballot while staying at home and protecting yourself and other community members. To request your ballot, visit www.myvote.wi.gov.

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services posted a new fact sheet on the Safer at Home order here: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p02620b.pdf>

Gov. Tony Evers today sent a letter to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) requesting that the president issue a major disaster declaration for the entire state of Wisconsin, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The request covers all 72 counties and the state's federally recognized tribes.

Number of confirmed coronavirus cases

United States: 163,539

Wisconsin: 1,351

Central Racine County Health Department: 16

City of Racine Public Health Department: 12

Racine County total: 28

Racine County

The Racine County Board will hold a special meeting via teleconference on Wednesday, April 1, to discuss extending the county's emergency declaration and COVID-19 updates. The meeting is open to the public. Dial-in information and an agenda [can be found here](#).

The Racine County Economic Development Corp. is now accepting applications for the RCEDC Small Business Relief Loan. The purpose of this program is to assist businesses negatively impacted by COVID-19. Learn more and apply at: <https://rcedc.org/news/rcedc-small-business-relief-loan>

One COVID-19 impact you may not have thought of: overloaded septic systems. More people staying at home means more food being prepared at home, dishes being washed, and garbage disposals and dishwashers being used. Many families are also washing clothes, linens and towels more often, especially if someone is sick or quarantined. Tips on septic system use

during COVID-19 can be found here: <https://septicsitter.com/covid-19-crisis-and-septic-system-impacts/>

Central Racine County Health Department

The Central Racine County Health Department sent new guidance regarding PPE Use and Reuse Guidance to partner agencies:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/bulletins/283ebdf>

The CDC released updated information regarding people who are at higher risk for severe illness. COVID-19 is a new disease and there is limited information regarding risk factors for severe disease. Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, **older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.** Based on what we know now, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People age 65 years and older
- People who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility

People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:

- People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
- People who have serious heart conditions
- People who are immunocompromised
 - Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications
- People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- People with liver disease

Resources

For local updates on the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus.

For national information on COVID-19, please go to the Centers for Disease Control's website: 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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