



## Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Waupaca County Public Health

For IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2020

### Public Health Emergency COVID-19 Alert Very High COVID-19 Activity Levels – Take Action to Stop the Spread

Waupaca County Public is issuing a **Public Health Emergency COVID-19 Alert**.

Due to an escalation in cases, Waupaca County Public Health no longer has the capacity to directly notify all close contacts of COVID-19 positive cases in a timely manner. Waupaca County Public Health has had to transition to prioritizing only contacting positives cases and limited close contacts, which reduces efforts to contain the virus. Positively confirmed individuals may be asked to contact their own close contacts.

The [very high](#) levels of COVID-19 cases are resulting in increased COVID-19 related hospitalizations and deaths.

Public health implores everyone to take actions to help stop uncontrolled community spread.

#### Take Action Now - Stop the Spread

- Stay home as much as possible
- Physically distance at least 6 feet from people with whom you do not live.
- Wear a cloth face mask, unless unable to wear one for medical reasons.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Indoors, do not gather with people outside of your household.
- Outdoors, limit gatherings, physically distance and wear face coverings.
- Self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days after return from travel.
- If symptomatic, call your health care provider, [get a test](#), and stay home while awaiting results.
- Cooperate with public health officials if you have tested positive or are a close contact.
- Self-quarantine if you are notified or are aware of being a [close contact](#).

During this **VERY HIGH** rate of transmission of COVID-19, we encourage the following strategies as found in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services [COVID-19 Data and Mitigation Strategies to Aid Local Communities](#).

**Businesses and community organizations** use [WEDC Guidelines](#).

For more information on cases in Waupaca County and COVID-19 recommendations, visit the following websites:

[https://www.co.waupaca.wi.us/departments/health\\_and\\_human\\_services/covid-19.php](https://www.co.waupaca.wi.us/departments/health_and_human_services/covid-19.php)

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

#### References:

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, *COVID-19 Activity Level by Region or County*. 2020 Retrieved on September 30, 2020 from: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/disease.htm>

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, *COVID-19 Data and Mitigation Strategies to Aid Local Communities*, 2020. Retrieved on September 30, 2020 from: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/news/releases/093020.htm>

####