

# Urgent News Release #74

## Richland County Emergency Management

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## **RICHLAND COUNTY COMMUNITY PARTNERS RESPOND TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

*Richland Center, WI:* A virtual Emergency Operations Center meeting was held this morning to share information between Richland County officials and community partners in a joint response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Health Manager/Local Health Officer, Rose Kohout announced that as of 2:00pm Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that in the state of Wisconsin there were 28,058 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 527,359 have tested negative, there were 777 deaths, and 3,407 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Of those that tested positive for COVID-19 in the state of Wisconsin, 12% have been hospitalized. There remain 15 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Richland County, 1,472 have tested negative, there have been 4 deaths, and 11 individuals who had tested positive have been released from quarantine. It was noted that Richland County Public Health and Richland County Emergency Management are preparing to offer local community COVID-19 testing as soon as possible. Additional details will be released as soon as they are available.

Tracy Thorsen reported that the Community Services Building and all Health and Human Services operations will reopen to the public starting Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. However, many of the services will continue to be provided via telephone, video-chat, telehealth, and in-person meetings in the community when appropriate. Clients and members of the public may continue to call (608) 647-8821 for assistance and inquiries. It is recommended that individuals coming into the public building wear a mask.

The Richland Hospital Clinic campus continues to reopen their facility for voluntary medical procedures and Primary Care visits, while also continuing to offer Tele-Health patient visits. Richland Hospital Clinic patients needing hands-on medical care should call the hospital main number (608) 647-6321 or clinic main number (608) 647-6161 before coming to the facility. Anyone entering the facility will be asked to wear a mask. If possible, please bring your own mask with you.

The Richland School District and Ithaca School District recently announced their plans to offer an in-person graduation to their Class of 2020 graduates on Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. The graduation ceremony plans include safeguards that minimize risk and follow health guidelines, but still offer a ceremony to formally recognize the students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have a COVID-19 question that you want our community partners to answer, please call Richland County Health & Human Services at 608-647-8821 and submit your question to the receptionist or email the question to [rchhs@co.richland.wi.us](mailto:rchhs@co.richland.wi.us). Citizens

are encouraged to check out the Richland County COVID-19 Dashboard which offers helpful data to better understand the impact of the pandemic globally and locally: <https://covid.co.richland.wi.us/2020/04/21/richland-county-covid-19-dashboard/>. For the most up-to-date COVID-19 information, follow Richland County Health & Human Services on Facebook or consult the following websites:

- ❖ Richland County:  
<https://covid.co.richland.wi.us>
- ❖ The Greater Richland Area Chamber of Commerce  
[www.gorcchamber.com](http://www.gorcchamber.com)
- ❖ Wisconsin Department of Health Services:  
[www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19)
- ❖ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:  
[www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/)

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