

Urgent News Release #79

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. Emergency Management Director, Darin Gudgeon noted that a FREE COVID-19 drive-thru community testing event is being offered **Tuesday, July 21, 2020 from 9am-6pm at the Richland County Fairgrounds.** It was noted that it could take 3-5 days or more to receive test results. Spanish-speaking individuals are welcome and we will have an interpreter onsite to assist them.

Public Health Manager/Local Health Officer, Rose Kohout announced that as of 2:00pm Wednesday, July 15th the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that in the state of Wisconsin there were 38,727 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 686,299 have tested negative, there were 827 deaths, and 3,923 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Of those that tested positive for COVID-19 in the state of Wisconsin, 10% have been hospitalized. There are now 19 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Richland County, 1,898 have tested negative, there have been 4 deaths, and 11 individuals who had tested positive have been released from quarantine. Richland County Public Health strongly

recommends wearing a mask when in public. It was noted that mandatory masking will be required at Walmart stores starting next Monday.

The Richland Hospital Clinic campus continues to offer 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.

UW-Platteville/Richland, the Richland School District, and the Ithaca School District continue to review all considerations for safely and successfully reopening schools for the 2020-21 school year amid 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. 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
- ❖ Wisconsin Department of Health Services:
www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19
- ❖ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

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