

Urgent News Release #80

Richland County Emergency Management

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For immediate release: **July 23, 2020**

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 Wednesday, July 22nd the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that in the state of Wisconsin there were 44,847 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 764,630 have tested negative, there were 865 deaths, and 4,225 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Of those that tested positive for COVID-19 in the state of Wisconsin, 9.4% have been hospitalized. Kohout reports that 273 total tests were administered during the Richland County COVID-19 community testing event on Tuesday, July 21st and additional data will be offered when those test results are verified. There are now 23 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Richland County, 2,134 have tested negative, there have been 4 deaths, and 13 individuals who had tested positive have been released from quarantine. Richland County Public Health strongly recommends wearing a mask when in public, continue social distancing, and practice excellent personal hygiene to help

reduce the spread of COVID-19. It was noted that the Pine Valley Community Village tested 109 staff on July 14th and all test results came back negative.

Richland Hospital Emergency Management Coordinator, Lyle Kratochwill announced that all patients needing admission or observation at the Richland Hospital will be tested for COVID-19. 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.

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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