

Urgent News Release #83

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 Wednesday, August 12th the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) confirmed that in the state of Wisconsin there were 62,263 confirmed cases of COVID-19, 1,023,723 have tested negative, there were 1,111 deaths, and 5,125 hospitalizations due to COVID-19. Of those that tested positive for COVID-19 in the state of Wisconsin, 8% have been hospitalized. There are now 37 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Richland County, 10 individuals remain in quarantine, 2,986 have tested negative, there have been 4 deaths, and 23 individuals who had tested positive have been released from quarantine. Of those 37 individuals who tested positive, 4 were hospitalized and the remaining 33 individuals have been recovering at home.

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.

Richland County Administrator, Clinton Langreck reported that there are changes being proposed to the county's COVID-19 Plan which include the following impacts to the public: the requirement of face coverings to be worn during in-person public meetings and the ability to offer routine teleconferencing for public meetings.

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.

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/>. 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. 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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