



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pierce County Public Health Releases a Call to Action to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

On Wednesday, May 13th, the Wisconsin Supreme Court overturned the state's Safer at Home order. Though Safer at Home is no longer in place, COVID-19 is still present in Pierce County communities and poses a serious threat to public health. As a result, the Pierce County Public Health Department is issuing recommendations to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

The recommendations include:

- Safe business practices for opening, including bars and restaurants
- Limiting gatherings to under 10 people
- Supporting local businesses in adopting practices to safeguard their staff and customers
- Advising against travel

"In light of the Wisconsin Supreme Court's ruling, local governments have been forced to act independently. Our communities need to focus on continuing to limit the activities that put us most at risk for an uncontrollable spread of COVID-19. These activities include large gatherings, business practices that might put customers and staff at risk, and travel outside of our community," said AZ Snyder, Health Officer/Public Health Director.

- Large gatherings quickly widen the number of individuals with whom we come into close contact. An infectious individual at even one large gathering could quickly outstrip local capacity to contact trace and quarantine or isolate those impacted. This would significantly impair public health's ability to control the spread of COVID-19.
- Local businesses support the health of Pierce County families, but without good practices and consistent physical distancing, our local businesses can easily become sources of disease transmission. To avoid becoming a source of transmission, businesses must have adequate cleaning, physical distancing, and staff symptom monitoring practices in place.
- Travel to other communities, especially those with higher transmission rates, continues to put Pierce County residents at risk.

Pierce County Public Health released a [COVID-19 business toolkit](#) which assists businesses to safely reopening. WEDC also issued [industry-specific guidance](#). Pierce County invites businesses to call 715-273-6762 (direct line)

TALK TO US

Phone: 715-273-6755

Fax: 715-273-6854

www.co.pierce.wi.us

VISIT US

412 W Kinne St

Ellsworth, WI 54011

OUR MISSION

To promote healthy behaviors, prevent disease and injury, and protect against environmental hazards



or email covidbusinesshelp@co.pierce.wi.us for assistance in interpreting the local recommendations or implementing new practices.

“I believe that businesses and residents will embrace opportunities to speak with our department’s experts to get good advice. No one wants to be responsible for an outbreak because they didn’t follow public health recommendations,” said Snyder. “Preventing COVID-19 in our county is up to us now. We have a responsibility to each other, and what happens in the coming months is going to be a direct result of the actions we take now.”

The advisory can be found on the Pierce County webpage:

[https://www.co.pierce.wi.us/Public%20Health/PDF/Publications Data/COVID-19%20Posts/PH%20Advisory%2051520.pdf](https://www.co.pierce.wi.us/Public%20Health/PDF/Publications_Data/COVID-19%20Posts/PH%20Advisory%2051520.pdf)



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