

## **PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY:**

## PIERCE COUNTY COVID-19 CALL TO ACTION

On Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 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. These recommendations include limiting the activities that put Pierce County residents at highest risk. Pierce County continues to monitor the situation closely and will take more restrictive measures if public health data dictates a need.

- 1. <u>Mass gathering limitations</u>. Pierce County Public Health advises against mass gatherings over 10 people. Mass gatherings are those planned or spontaneous events with a large number of people in attendance that could strain the planning and response resources of the community hosting the event, such as a concert, festival, conference, or sporting event. Businesses that could become sites for mass gatherings should consider how they will support physical distancing by designing their environment, educating staff and reminding customers.
- 2. Safe business practices. All Pierce County businesses should:
  - a. Have policies in place to monitor their staff for symptoms of COVID-19 or exposure to a known case on a regular basis.
  - b. Have policies that support working from home, when feasible.
  - c. Have policies and supplies that encourage handwashing, wearing masks, and physical distancing.
  - d. Have policies and supplies to ensure adequate disinfection and cleaning.
  - e. Cooperate with Public Health investigations related to COVID-19 confirmed or suspected cases related to the business operations, such as excluding employees based on public health recommendations as well as assisting public health with identifying and contacting case contacts.
  - f. Enforce mass gathering prohibitions on their premises.
  - g. Cease door-to-door operations.
  - h. Review and consider adopting the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation guidelines on safe business practices, available here: <a href="https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/">https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/</a>
- 3. <u>Travel</u>. Residents are strongly encouraged to avoid non-essential travel outside of their communities.
  - a. Residents are allowed to travel to work or to take care of dependents.



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



- b. Residents who travel to the Twin Cities for work must be cautious and monitor themselves for symptoms.
- c. If a Pierce County resident does travel outside their community and engages in activities that compromise physical distancing should limit contact with non-household members for 14 days and monitor symptoms closely.
- 4. <u>Prevention of Disease Recommendations</u>. All residents are strongly encouraged to follow these guidelines including:
  - a. Maintaining distancing of six (6) feet between people;
  - b. Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds as frequently as possible or using hand sanitizer;
  - c. Covering coughs or sneezes (into the sleeve or elbow, not hands);
  - d. Regularly cleaning high-touch surfaces;
  - e. Not shaking hands;
  - f. Those persons at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and people who are sick are urged to stay in their residence to the extent possible except as necessary to seek medical care; and,
  - g. Following all other public health recommendations issued by DHS and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.
- 5. <u>Follow DHS guidelines</u>. All individuals, organizations, businesses, government bodies, and any other permitted group of individuals should, to the extent possible, follow Wisconsin DHS guidelines located at: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm</a> and <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/employers.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/employers.htm</a>.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020

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AZ Snyder, MSc Health Officer Jeff Holst

**Board of Supervisors Chair** 

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Nancy Hove

Sheriff



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