



Douglas County Public Health

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19: Cases Surging Among the Young Adults

While Douglas County had remained stable for nearly three weeks, dramatic increases in COVID-19 cases have been identified across the state. Young adults in particular have been testing positive in increasing numbers. In Douglas County, two residents in the 20-29 year old age range have tested positive for the virus this week, bringing the total number to 22. Public Health is following up on dozens of close contacts and providing isolation and quarantine guidance for all involved.

While people in this age group are likely to recover well, they tend to be very mobile through work and social activities, and at risk of spreading the disease to others. According to the Centers for Disease Control less than 4% of people in their 20's require hospitalization, but that doesn't mean there is no risk. Spreading the virus to older relatives and coworkers is a real risk. This along with a general decline in social distancing practices puts Douglas County at risk for a surge in cases.

The virus is still active in our community. We have many visitors coming into our stores, bars and restaurants. I would encourage people to be mindful of whom they are spending time with, particularly if they work with vulnerable people or have friends and family they may be putting at risk. Maintain physical distance of six feet from people outside of your household, sanitize your hands and wear a facemask, particularly around those at risk. We have all heard this before, but it works.

What you can do:

1. Stay at home if you are sick, contact your provider for a COVID-19 test
2. Minimize close physical contact with those outside of your household
3. Minimize travel, especially to areas considered "viral hotspots" within and beyond our state borders
4. Wear a fabric face covering if you are unable to maintain social distancing practices
5. Maintain 6-foot distances with others whenever possible
6. Minimize congregating in large groups
7. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
8. Avoid touching your face
9. Comply with local public health COVID-19 isolation and quarantine orders
10. If you choose to visit public places, be prepared to avoid crowds and sanitize hands when leaving.

We are in this together. We can choose to protect ourselves and each other, and thereby protect our community and economy, by changing our behavior in accordance with the actions listed above.

Check the Douglas County web page for updates and alerts.

- Douglas County COVID-19 Dashboard: <https://www.douglascountywi.org/1124/COVID-19-Updates>
- Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19 : <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19>