COVID-19: March 26th, 2020 UPDATE (as of 4:30 pm)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (WI DHS) and the North Shore Health Department (NSHD), along with other local health departments are responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus, COVID-19. For the most current information on the COVID-19, please visit the CDC's website on COVID-19 or www.nshealthdept.org/.

There is evidence of community spread throughout much of Wisconsin. This means that there are people who have tested positive, and it is unknown what their exposures have been. The most effective measure to prevent further spread is to stay home, especially if you are ill. If you think you may have been exposed or are ill and have an underlying health condition or need medical care, contact your healthcare provider.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and Executive Order #12 (Safer at Home), the playgrounds and tennis courts throughout the North Shore are closed: Playground equipment and tennis courts should not be used until further notice. This is to slow the spread of the virus and preserve the health of our community. You are still encouraged to go outside to exercise or walk your dog while remembering to maintain social distance.

As a reminder, 911 is only for emergency situations. If you have questions about COVID-19 please call 211: You can also text COVID19 to 211-211 or visit https://211wisconsin.communityos.org/coronavirus.
The Safer at Home order (Executive Order #12) went into effect as of Wednesday March 25th, at 8 am and will remain in effect until 8 am on Friday, April 24th, or until a superseding order is issued. Governor Tony Evers directed the Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary-designee Andrea Palm to issue the Safer at Home order, which prohibits all nonessential travel and closes non-essential businesses across Wisconsin. The order is available [here](#) and the press release can be found [here](#). A Safer at Home FAQ was released for clarification of the order and is available [here](#). The press release includes a condensed list of businesses that are considered essential, and order includes the full list with exemptions. Governor Evers stresses the importance of staying home to flatten the curve and minimize the burden on the healthcare system. Many people who have the virus display no signs or symptoms and unknowingly spread it to others. This Safer at Home order is necessary to prevent transmission of the virus by these people who appear healthy.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and we encourage you to frequently monitor the [DHS website for updates](#), as well as the [NSHD website](#). Additional information on COVID-19 can be found on the [CDC website](#).