COVID-19: April 1st, 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, visit the CDC's website on COVID-19 or www.nshealthdept.org.

The first case in the North Shore was confirmed on March 13th, 2020, and there is now evidence of community spread. As the North Shore Health Department, we are currently monitoring 32 active cases, and we are also providing active monitoring for high-risk contacts of confirmed cases with daily phone calls. We have triaged and processed over 370 suspect cases and/or contacts, and performed several large contact investigations, which involves notifying the contacts of their potential risk and educating them on guarantine guidelines set by the CDC and WI DHS. We are also managing active cases in Milwaukee to assist the Milwaukee Health Department.

WUWM, Milwaukee's NPR station, took a deeper look into the response of the NSHD to COVID-19: Check out the story on their website.



COVID-19 Cases to Date

North Shore (includes Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay - as of April 1st, 2020)

50 Cumulative Confirmed Cases

32 active cases being managed and monitored

14 cases resolved because people have recovered and been removed from isolation by NSHD

2 deaths

1 transfer

1 unable to be located (multiple agency alerts out)

Milwaukee County (as of April 1st, 2020)

780 Cumulative Confirmed Cases

11 Deaths

Wisconsin (as of April 1st, 2020)

1,550 Cumulative Confirmed Cases (+199)

18,819 People with Negative Results (+1,444)

24 deaths (+8)

Two new counties report cases for the first time: Crawford and Menominee

Two new counties report deaths for the first time: Waukesha and Rock

NSHD Health Officer Ann Christiansen was interviewed by WUWM's Susan Bence: She discusses the different levels of risk of exposure to COVID-19: reminds the public about the importance of self-isolation and self-quarantine; and reiterates the current COVID-19 testing prioritization, with the hope of increased testing capability to come. The NSHD is working diligently

to protect the health of our North Shore communities. "This is what we've been trained to do" said Ann. Listen to the full interview here.





The WI DHS reminds Wisconsin residents that everyone is safer at home: Community spread of COVID-19 is occurring in many counties across Wisconsin, meaning everyone could be at risk of exposure. It is recommended that you limit outings to the essentials, such as getting groceries or going to medical appointments, and maintain a physical distance of 6 feet from others while out. Also, you should avoid social gatherings of any kind with all ages, and continue to wash your hands often. The best method to stop the spread is to stay home to decrease the opportunities for

transmission of the virus. Our healthcare system needs everyone's assistance in slowing the spread to protect the health of all Wisconsin residents.

Today is Census Day: April 1st earns this title because it is reference day for the 2020 U.S. Census, meaning today is used as the marker to determine who is counted and where. Your response to the Census will indicate where you live as of April 1, 2020 and include everyone who usually lives or sleeps in your home. Don't forget to respond to get counted in the 2020 U.S. population count. The results of



the Census help determine federal funding that is allocated to states and communities each year. You can respond online, by phone, or by mail – perfect for maintaining social distancing! For more information and to respond to the 2020 Census, visit <u>https://2020census.gov/</u>.

According to the Safer at Home order, landlords or rental property managers should avoid entering leased residential premises: Emergency maintenance is permitted, but routine maintenance should be postponed while the Safer at Home order is in place. Additionally, landlords should not be showing inhabited rental property during the order. If this is occurring, tenants should contact local law enforcement.

Healthy coping mechanisms are incredibly important during this time: Focus on getting good sleep, eating healthy, and making time for physical activity. Stay connected with your support system virtually with calls, texts, emails, and video chatting. Maintaining social connections well help you feel less isolated. Also spend time focusing on other things rather than COVID-19. Don't let the pandemic take over what you read, watch, or talk about, and limit your news intake so as not to overwhelm yourself.

If you find that persistent anxiety is overwhelming your ability to cope with everyday life, or leading to thoughts of self-harm or suicide, reach out for help right away. Text HOPELINE to 741741 or call the Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255.

This is a rapidly evolving situation and we encourage you to frequently monitor the <u>DHS</u> <u>website for updates</u>, as well as the <u>NSHD website</u>. Additional information on COVID-19 can be found on the <u>CDC website</u>.