



COVID-19: April 2nd, 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](https://www.cdc.gov) 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 33 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 400 suspect cases and/or contacts, and performed several large contact investigations, which involves notifying the contacts of their potential risk and educating them on quarantine guidelines set by the CDC and WI DHS. We are also managing several active cases in Milwaukee to assist the Milwaukee Health Department.

COVID-19 Cases to Date
<p>North Shore (includes Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay - as of April 2nd, 2020)</p> <p>53 Cumulative Confirmed Cases</p> <p>33 active cases being managed and monitored</p> <p>17 cases resolved - people have recovered and been removed from isolation by NSHD</p> <p>2 deaths</p> <p>1 transfer out of state</p>
<p>Milwaukee County (as of April 2nd, 2020)</p> <p>869 Cumulative Confirmed Cases (+89)</p> <p>16 Deaths (+5)</p>
<p>Wisconsin (as of April 2nd, 2020)</p> <p>1,730 Cumulative Confirmed Cases (+180)</p> <p>20,317 People with Negative Results (+1,498)</p> <p>31 deaths (+7)</p>

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 [avoid illness](#) and 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.

A common question about the Safer at Home order: Can I go outside for walks, outdoor exercise, or to play? According to the order, you may engage in outdoor activities that meet social distancing requirements, including traveling to public and state parks. We ask that you **move through the parks** for walking, running and biking – **don't stay and play!** No team or contact sports are permitted and playgrounds are closed.

YOU CAN GO OUTSIDE

When you are outside, stay 6 feet away from people who don't live with you!

You can:



✓ Walk outside



✓ Ride a bike



✓ Walk your dog

You can't:



✗ Meet up with friends



✗ Play sports on park courts or equipment



✗ Go on playgrounds

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Even after implementing the Safer at Home order, it will likely be several weeks before we see results: This is because of the lag time between infection, symptom onset, and results of testing. The numbers you're seeing today and in the near term are people who were infected before Safer at Home started. The science tells us that staying at home is effective, so we must remain vigilant and stay home to slow the spread. Even if you do not feel sick, staying home is crucial. **You do not have permission to leave your home unnecessarily just because you are feeling okay.** Choosing to ignore the Safer at Home order is contributing to the spread of COVID-19.



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](#).



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](#).

Don't forget to respond to the 2020 U.S. census: 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 <https://2020census.gov/>.



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](#).