



April 7th, 2020 Update on COVID-19 (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](#) or our [website](#).

As the North Shore Health Department, we are currently monitoring 27 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 many suspect cases and/or contacts, and performed several large contact investigations, which involves notifying the contacts of their potential risk and educating them on self-quarantine guidelines. We are also managing several active cases in Milwaukee to assist the Milwaukee Health Department.

Community transmission of COVID-19 is

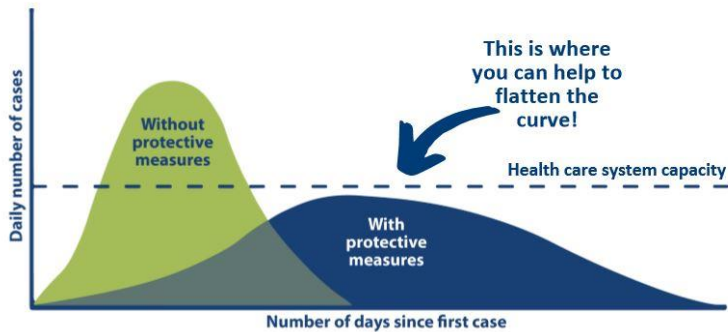
occurring in the communities of the North Shore: Everyone should assume they could be at risk of exposure to COVID-19 when out in public settings. The NSHD highly recommends, under the guidance of the WI Department of Health Services (DHS) and the CDC, that North Shore residents *stay home* unless it is absolutely necessary to leave for essential functions, such as grocery shopping, pharmacy visits or medical appointments.

When conducting essential tasks, take the proper precautions to reduce your risk and prevent further spread:

- Keep 6 feet of physical distance between yourself and others.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water. Hand sanitizers of at least 60% alcohol should be used in situations where soap and water are not available.
- Wear a cloth face covering to keep infectious particles from entering the air when you speak, cough or sneeze. See more about cloth face masks below.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces before you touch, such as shopping carts and basket handles.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

You could be sick with COVID-19 and not even know it. The infectious period begins approximately 2 days before symptoms appear, meaning you can get others sick before you are actually feeling unwell. Some cases of COVID-19 have had no symptoms at all or only displayed minor symptoms.

COVID-19 Cases to Date
<p>North Shore (includes Bayside, Brown Deer, Fox Point, Glendale, River Hills, Shorewood, Whitefish Bay - as of April 7th, 2020)</p> <p>72 Cumulative Confirmed Cases</p> <p>27 active cases being managed and monitored</p> <p>41 cases resolved - people have recovered and been removed from isolation by NSHD</p> <p>3 deaths</p> <p>1 transfer out of state</p>
<p>Milwaukee County (as of April 7th, 2020)</p> <p>1,323 Cumulative Confirmed Cases (+67)</p> <p>49 Deaths (+9)</p>
<p>Wisconsin (as of April 7th, 2020)</p> <p>2,578 Cumulative Confirmed Cases (+138)</p> <p>28,512 People with Negative Results (+1,938)</p> <p>92 deaths (+15)</p>



Even if you do not feel sick it is important to take the necessary precautions, as you may be unknowingly spreading the virus. Community transmission in the North Shore can be reduced if everyone acts as if they could be spreading the virus to others AND everyone assumes they are at risk of being exposed every time they are out on public. Please do your part to flatten the curve and *just stay home!*

The CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings, especially in areas with significant community spread:

When you are outside the home conducting essential activities such as going to work, to the grocery store or outside for a walk, it is recommended you wear cloth face coverings to help reduce transmission of COVID-19. The cloth face coverings are intended to stop infectious particles from entering the air when someone speaks, coughs or sneezes. You should still practice physical distancing, if possible, and frequent hand washing while using the cloth face coverings. Surgical masks and respirators should NOT be used by the public. These are needed for health care workers.

Some tips from WI DHS on cloth face coverings:

- Before putting on a cloth mask, clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Make sure your mask covers your mouth and nose with no gaps between your face and the mask.
- Do not touch your mask while wearing it; if you do, clean your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Replace the mask with a new one as soon as it is damp.
- Always wear your cloth reusable mask with the same side facing outwards.



For more information on cloth face coverings and tips on making your own: [DHS](#) and [CDC](#)

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](#).