



To protect, nurture and advance
the health of our community

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Linda Conlon, MPH, BAN, RN
Director/ Health Officer

Marta Koelling, MPH, MS, CHES
Assistant Director



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 17, 2020

Contact: 715-369-6111

Gov. Evers Directs DHS to Limit Gatherings to Less than 10 People to Slow Spread of COVID-19

Gov. Tony Evers today directed Department of Health Services (DHS) Secretary-designee Andrea Palm to issue an agency order prohibiting mass gatherings of 10 people or more to slow the spread of COVID-19. The order makes exceptions for transportation, educational institutions, child care, hotels, military, law enforcement, food pantries, hospitals, long-term care facilities, restaurants and bars can only offer take-out or delivery, grocery stores and convenience stores, utility facilities, job centers, and courts. Additionally, schools will be closed for the duration of the public health emergency.

Violation or obstruction of this order is punishable by imprisonment, fines, or both under Wisconsin State Statute § 252.25.

“Our top priority at this time is to keep Wisconsinites safe and healthy by reducing the spread of COVID-19, especially for those who are considered high-risk. With limited tests available nationwide and continued community spread, we have to take every precaution to protect ourselves, our families, and our neighbors,” said Gov. Evers. “I know what this means for our small business owners and the struggles they and their workers will face in the coming weeks, but we are committed to working with our federal partners, state officials, and stakeholders to ensure we are doing everything we can to assist during these uncertain times.”

Community Spread:

We are seeing community spread of COVID-19 in Wisconsin. This means that there are people who have tested positive who have no exposures to a known case nor did they travel to a location where there is known community spread. Today, we have cases in Milwaukee, Dane and Kenosha counties indicating that there is community spread happening in Wisconsin. Social distancing will help keep you, your family, and our community from increased risk of exposure.

You can view the full order here:

https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/WIGOV/2020/03/17/file_attachments/1403535/Gov.%20Evers_DHS%20order_3.17.20.pdf

To read the latest information about COVID-19 check the Oneida County Health Department website (oneidacountypublichealth.org) or Facebook page (facebook.com/OneidaCountyHealthDepartment/), the Department of Health Services (DHS) website (<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/index.htm>) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>).

Phone: (715) 369-6111
Fax: (715) 369-6112
ochd@co.oneida.wi.us
www.OneidaCountyPublicHealth.org

100 W. Keenan Street
Rhineland, WI 54501
Monday– Friday 8:00AM-4:30PM

*Embracing change, partnerships, and best practices to lead
Oneida County to a healthy future.*