



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

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Contact: 715-369-6111

### CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) COMMUNITY UPDATE

Since being identified in late 2019, Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread to more than 100 countries worldwide, and has been classified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. It can cause serious illness and pneumonia in some people. The Oneida County Health Department (OCHD) is sharing the following information to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

#### Mass Gathering Guidance

Mass gatherings and large community events bring people from multiple communities into close contact with each other, which has the potential to increase COVID-19 transmission. OCHD, along with the Department of Health Services, (DHS) recommend that all non-essential gatherings of over 250 people be cancelled or postponed statewide to help protect community members from the spread of this disease. Additionally, DHS supports the decisions of any event organizers that elect to cancel or postpone events with less than 250 attendees in order to protect their communities. There is scientific evidence that limiting the size and number of mass gathering events is an effective tool for preventing the spread of disease.

#### Recommendations on Domestic and International Travel

Currently the CDC and Wisconsin DHS recommend the following with respect to **international travel**:

- Avoid non-essential travel to Level 3 Travel Notice locations (see [www.cdc.gov/COVID-19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID-19) for current list)
- Older adults and those with chronic conditions avoid travel to Japan (Level 2 Travel Notice)
- Travelers practice precautions (avoid contact with sick people, avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth, etc.) when traveling to Hong Kong (Level 1 Travel Notice)

Currently the Wisconsin DHS recommends the following **domestic travel-related measures**:

- Avoid non-essential travel to any U.S. state where the CDC deems there is “sustained community transmission”
  - As of March 11, 2020 this includes California, New York, and Washington
  - Visit CDC webpage for an up to date list of states reporting “sustained community transmission”
- Travelers returning to Wisconsin from U.S. states where “sustained community transmission” is occurring should self-quarantine at home for 14 days to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms
  - It may take up to 14 days after exposure for symptoms to occur
  - DHS COVID-19 webpage provides instructions on how to self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms

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Phone: (715) 369-6111

Fax: (715) 369-6112

[ochd@co.oneida.wi.us](mailto:ochd@co.oneida.wi.us)

[www.OneidaCountyPublicHealth.org](http://www.OneidaCountyPublicHealth.org)

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

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### Other Tips to Stop the Spread of Germs

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick (except to get medical care, in which you should call the facility first)
- Cover your cough/sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

For more information on COVID-19, including helpful fact sheets, please visit [www.cdc.gov/COVID-19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID-19) or [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov).

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