ONEIDA COUNTY
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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To protect, nurture, and advance
the health of our community

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 9, 2020
Contact: 715-369-6111

ONEIDA COUNTY MOVES TO PHASE 2 OF COVID-19 REOPENING GUIDANCE

On May 15, 2020, the Oneida County Health Department released *Onward Oneida County: Reopening Oneida County amid the COVID-19 Pandemic Plan & Toolkit.* This plan follows a strategic, phased approach that utilizes data-driven criteria that align with federal and state guidance in order to prevent, suppress, and control COVID-19. The Onward Oneida County Plan outlines the precautionary measures needed at the present time for Oneida County based on the latest science and guidance from experts. Oneida County has made progress in limiting the impact of COVID-19, but we have not yet reached our new normal. We will continue to focus on the importance of continuation of businesses and activities for all sectors of our economy.

It has been determined, based on current metrics and our local situation, as of 5:00 PM on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, Oneida County will move into Phase 2 of the *Onward Oneida County: Reopening Oneida County amid the COVID-19 Pandemic Plan & Toolkit.* By moving into Phase 2, local businesses will continue to play a big role in protecting customers and staff. Local, state, and national resources are available to help businesses adopt best practices.

We encourage Oneida County residents and visitors to continue to practice the guidance that has been shared. This includes, maintaining physical distancing, avoiding large gatherings, using good personal hygiene and handwashing, wearing face coverings, etc. We also encourage you to not go to work, the store, or anywhere else when you feel ill. If you feel you have symptoms of COVID-19, contact your healthcare provider for testing options, or visit https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/testing for a list of community testing sites.

The COVID-19 response goal is to prevent death and disability for Oneida County residents and visitors during this pandemic. We understand that these public health measures have been challenging and have impacted our community, but they are necessary as we exercise caution reopening the county. We have heard from many concerned residents that support our ability to stay the course and continue to put their health and the health of their families first, especially our most vulnerable. It is our job as public health professionals to do just that, using data and science to drive our decisions. At this time, the disease is still spreading across the country. We will need everyone to do their part and cooperate to slow the spread of COVID-19. We would like to reiterate that COVID-19 did not disappear when the Supreme Court ruling eliminated the State's Safer at Home order. The Oneida County Health Department is committed to moving us forward with your best interests and safety at mind and heart. We need to move forward with confidence. Please stay well Oneida County.

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

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Resources are available through the Oneida County Health Department website (https://publichealth.co.oneida.wi.us/) and other credible sources.

Oneida County Business Toolkit: https://publichealth.co.oneida.wi.us/services/communicable-disease/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-2/onward-oneida-county/
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation: https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/

Centers for Disease Control: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html

Oneida County Health Department Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/OneidaCountyHealthDepartment/
If you have questions or immediate needs related to COVID-19, call United Way's 2-1-1 or text COVID-19 to 211211.

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