



Forest County Health Department
200 E Madison Street
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<http://forestcountypublichealth.org/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 5th, 2020

FIRST CASE OF COVID-19 CONFIRMED IN FOREST COUNTY

Forest County Public Health officials have confirmed a person has been diagnosed with novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19) in Forest County. The individual is being isolated and no further information is being released to protect the person's privacy. County health officials are working to determine how the individual may have become infected and are contacting others with whom the positive case had close contact with.

We are working with our local, state and federal partners to deal quickly and effectively when people have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been around people who have been infected to make sure our community remains safe and healthy.

Jacee Shepard, Forest County Health Department Director/Health Officer asks community members to follow the Safer at Home order and stay home as much as possible. Because COVID-19 transmission is now widespread throughout Wisconsin, even people who have not traveled outside of their community should minimize their contact with others by staying home when possible, practicing physical distancing, and being alert for symptoms of COVID-19.

In addition, people should continue to:

- Frequently and thoroughly wash hands with soap and water
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your face
- Stay home when sick
- Practice physical distancing
- Avoid large gatherings and crowds

In addition to the above recommendations, the CDC has also updated their guidance encouraging the public to wear cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g. grocery stores and pharmacies).

People with confirmed infections have a range of symptoms, from little to no symptoms to people being severely sick and dying. Symptoms may include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Body or muscle aches
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Loss of smell
- Loss of taste



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If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, please call your health care provider and ask to be tested.

In an effort to keep community members up to date on COVID-19, Forest County Health Department will continue to update our Facebook page daily with current COVID-19 case counts. This will include the number of negative and positive cases in Forest County.

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