RACINE COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE
March 25, 2020

Overview

Governor Evers' "Safer at Home" order went into effect at 8 a.m. today. The overarching goal of the order, which is aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19, is for people to stay at home unless absolutely necessary. The State of Wisconsin has compiled a Frequently Asked Questions document pertaining to the "Safer at Home" order. You can find the FAQ here, and read the entire order here.

Central Racine County Health Department reports two additional confirmed cases of COVID-19, bringing the total for Racine County to eight confirmed cases.

Number of coronavirus cases

United States: 54,453
Wisconsin: 585
Racine County: 8

Racine County

The Racine County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), in conjunction with local law enforcement and Fire/EMS agencies, is accepting community donations of facemasks, including hand-sewn masks, and other personal protective equipment as part of a countywide effort to compile needed equipment to combat the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). Equipment can be dropped off at any fire or police station in Racine County after 6 p.m. Tote boxes labeled for personal protective equipment donations are located near the entrances. See more in a news release.
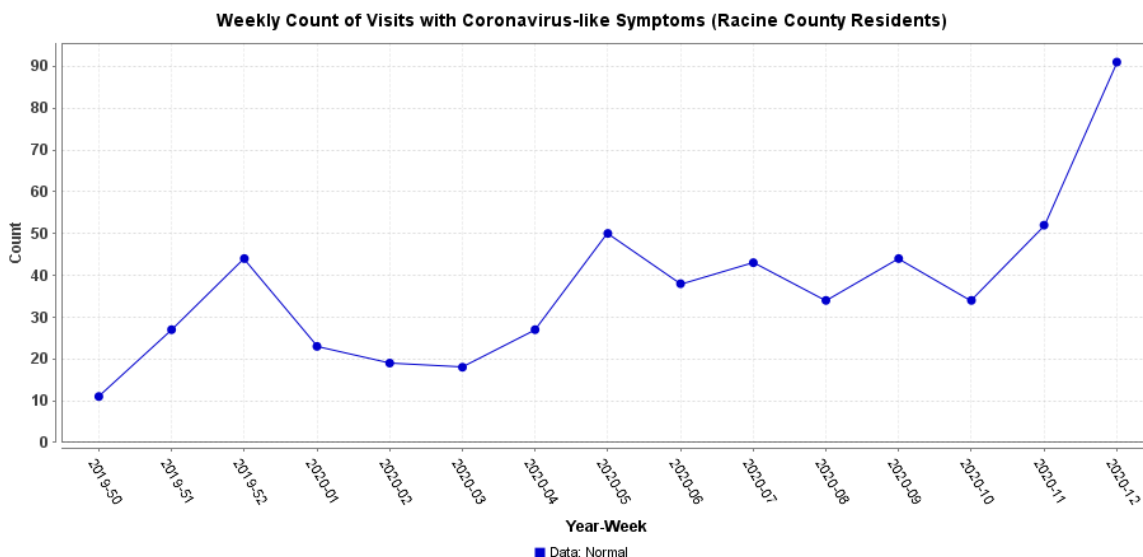
City of Racine

Effective Thursday, March 26, the City of Racine is modifying its bus service to protect public health. Changes include:

- All passengers must board at the rear doors to help maintain social distancing between passengers and drivers.
- Fares to ride the bus are waived until April 20.
- No more than 15 people at a time will be allowed on a bus.
- People with mobility impairments or devices will still be able to board at the front bus door.
- Buses will continue to be disinfected daily.
- Social distancing while on the bus is required.
- Passengers are reminded to only use the bus when necessary, and cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze.

Read more in the City of Racine's news release.

Public Health

Local public health continues to receive updates regarding testing for COVID-19, with the amount of testing completed based on Wisconsin Department of Health Services' guidance for priority testing and availability of test kits. While the case count remains low in Racine County, the chart below shows those with coronavirus-like symptoms who have presented themselves to hospitals (by year-week) as compiled by Central Racine County Health Department. The first two peaks likely represent influenza while the last is likely coronavirus.

Weekly Count of Visits with Coronavirus-like Symptoms (Racine County Residents)

Source: National Syndromic Surveillance Program, Essense   Updated 12:58pm, 03/25/2020   Coronavirus-like Illness includes: Fever or Chills and (Cough or Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing)

Hospitals

Both major hospital systems in Racine County have dedicated pages for consumers to access information about coronavirus, including details for those seeking medical care. Aurora's COVID-19 Resource Center can be found at https://www.advocateaurorahealth.org/coronavirus-disease-2019. Ascension's COVID-19 Resource Center is https://healthcare.ascension.org/Specialty-Care/Coronavirus.

Resources

For local updates on the COVID-19 outbreak, please visit www.racinecounty.com/coronavirus.

For national information on COVID-19, please go to the Centers for Disease Control's website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

You can also find current information on the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website, which has guidance that is updated regularly for travel, self-quarantine, and school districts, among other important information: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm.

Health System Hotlines:
Ascension: (833) 981-0711
Advocate Aurora: (866) 443-2584
Froedtert: (414) 805-2000.

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