



The [statewide COVID-19 website](#) is a one stop shop that consolidates information from state agencies, and provides up-to-date information and guidance regarding COVID-19. DHS has also offered information on their website on [How and Where to Get Tested](#).

If you're not busy, please make a call, send a card, or write a letter to someone you know who lives alone or may need assistance.

Bless each of you during this difficult time of uncertainty and suffering. Take good care!

[See previous eUpdates](#)

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## Governor Evers Announces New Limits on Indoor Public Gatherings



In response to the increases number of cases and hospitalizations being seen throughout Wisconsin, today Governor Tony Evers issued [Emergency Order #3](#), limiting public indoor public gatherings to 25% of a room or building total capacity. A Frequently Asked Questions document on the order can be found [here](#).

Our state is currently in a crisis, and has become the national hotspot for transmission of COVID-19. Our 7 day average of new daily cases is at 2,346, up from 836 just one month ago. Some hospitals have been forced to use waitlists or transfer patients to other facilities for treatment due to capacity constraints.

Limiting indoor gatherings is one of the most effective ways at reducing transmission, along with diligent hygiene, face coverings, and general physical distancing.

Read [more](#).

## Statewide Mask Mandate Faces Legal Challenge

a St. Croix County Judge Michael Waterman has heard a case challenging the Governor's declaration of a public health emergency brought by the conservative Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty (WILL). The motion seeks to halt enforcement of the public emergency declarations, including the mask mandate, and would potentially include today's limits on indoor gatherings.

One of the statements the judge made that could indicate his thoughts on the matter was:

*"They're asking the third branch of government — the judiciary — to step in and exercise a power that the Legislature reserved to itself. The court is being asked to do that when the Legislature has apparently chosen for one reason or another not to act."*

Neither the state Senate nor the state Assembly have been given any indication that they will convene in order to pass a resolution ending the emergency declaration, or any other measures that would be aimed at helping the people of Wisconsin cope with the health and economic impact of the pandemic.

Read [more](#).

## Free Flu Shots Available in Milwaukee

Ascension Wisconsin is offering free influenza vaccines for adults ages 18 and older. This Winter is expected to be particularly difficult as we combat the seasonal flu and the COVID-19 pandemic. Thankfully, the personal hygiene and social distancing techniques that we have all learned help reduce the transmission of both diseases. Even so, it is highly advised that adults get a flu shot to reduce the spread of influenza. The locations will be Ascension St. Joseph and the Consulate of Mexico, see below for dates and times:

**WHERE:** Ascension St. Joseph  
5000 W. Chambers Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53210

**WHEN:** Wednesday, October 7 from 9 a.m. - Noon  
Wednesday, October 14 from 9 a.m. - Noon  
Wednesday, October 21 from 9 a.m. - Noon  
Wednesday, October 28 from 9 a.m. - Noon

**WHERE:** Consulate of Mexico in Milwaukee  
1443 N. Prospect Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53202

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 3 from 9 a.m. - Noon  
Monday, October 5 from 9 a.m. - Noon  
Friday, October 9 from 9 a.m. - Noon

## Miller Park and Fiserv Forum will no longer be Available for Early Voting

Milwaukee Election Commission Executive Director Claire Woodall-Vogg explained that potential legal challenges from the Republican Party of Wisconsin and a statement from the Wisconsin Elections Commission could possibly jeopardize any votes that might be cast from the two locations:

Recently, the Wisconsin Elections Commission issued a notice clarifying that alternate or additional sites for absentee voting had to have been designated by June, while the Miller Park and Fiserv Forum options had been announced in August.

*"Unfortunately, the addition of these two sites could be legally challenged due to a recent court ruling, and we don't want to do anything that could risk a City of Milwaukee voter's ballot being counted,"* said Claire Woodall-Vogg. *"We want residents of Milwaukee to feel complete and unwavering confidence that their ballot will be counted in the election and this action reflects that commitment."*

[Read more.](#)

Early voting (in-person absentee) for the November election begins on October 20th. For times and locations for early voting, check your municipality below:

[City of Greenfield](#)

[City of Milwaukee](#)

[City of West Allis](#)

[Village of West Milwaukee](#)

## Repeal of Prevailing Wage doesn't Live Up to Promised Results

A new study from the Midwest Economic Policy Institute found that repealing the prevailing wage had no noticeable effect on the cost of construction projects, and there was actually a drop in the number of bids for projects from local companies. The lawmakers who pushed for this policy promised that it would do the opposite.

What it did do, was lower wages for workers, while increasing them for CEOs, and bids from out-of-state contractors increased from 9 percent to 13 percent.

"What that means is ... Wisconsin tax dollars that previously went to Wisconsin contractors and construction workers, (are) now being used to pay workers from out of state," said Duncan, a member of the study's research team. "When that happens, Wisconsin tax money leaks out of Wisconsin and it stimulates economies in neighboring states instead of supporting the local economy."

[Read more.](#)

## National Guard Continues Work Testing for COVID-19

I would like to thank the members of our Wisconsin National Guard for their tireless efforts over the past 7 months.

This week, their specimen collection teams cumulative total tests reached over 575,000, and they continue supporting our local health agencies and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

In addition to these efforts, they have risen to the call to support our elections as poll workers when local governments were unable to recruit sufficient volunteers, responded to the civil unrest in Kenosha, and many other missions during the same period.

They have provided these services to our state out of their sense of duty, and have helped meet our state's needs with quiet dignity.

To the members of the Wisconsin National Guard:

**Thank you for your service!**

Read [more](#).

## Census Deadline Extended to October 31st

The deadline to complete the 2020 Census has recently been extended.

The Census is one of the most impactful events of the decade. Its results are the direct data that composes legislative districts, and inform decisions making about funding for all kinds of programs from fire departments to public education.

If you have not yet completed the Census, please go online and fill it out. It only takes a few minutes!

[My2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)

## Wisconsin is Hiring Contact Tracers

The state is looking for Contact Tracers to help manage our response to the Coronavirus at a rate of \$20/hr.

Help be a part of the solution!

See [posting](#).

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