



## Press Release



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### **COVID-19 Update: 1<sup>st</sup> Confirmed Case in Polk County**

Polk County, WI.—Polk County Health Department confirmed that Polk County has its first positive case of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19. The individual has isolated as requested and is complying with local, state, and federal recommendations. Public Health is identifying and contacting known individuals that have been in close contact with that person.

“It is important that Polk County residents continue to follow recommendations to protect themselves and slow the spread of COVID-19.” said Brian Kaczmariski, Polk County Health Officer. “I am confident in our community’s ability to support each other at this time. Having a confirmed case reminds us of the need to follow physical distancing guidelines”

The Polk County Health Department and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) responsibilities include:

- Identifying and contacting known individuals who have been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19 and providing appropriate public health guidance.
- Providing guidance to clinicians regarding testing.
- Preparing Wisconsin for community spread of COVID-19.

Polk County Health Department is monitoring the situation. We are working with our local, state, and federal partners to act quickly and effectively when people have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been around people who have been infected with the coronavirus.

The Health Department is reminding everyone what they should do to protect themselves including:

- Frequent and thorough handwashing with soap and water.
- Cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Stay home when sick.
- Practice social distancing
- Avoid large public gatherings and crowds.

“Polk County Health Department is ready to manage the potential for additional cases. We will continue to work with DHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with our local partners to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on our county,” said Brian Kaczmariski, Polk County Health Department.

The COVID-19 pandemic is quickly evolving and many rumors exist. The Polk County Health Department is committed to sharing accurate information and is notified of confirmed test results. For the latest information about COVID-19 in the US and Wisconsin, visit the [CDC's website](#) or the [DHS website](#). For the latest information about COVID-19 in Polk County, visit: [www.polkcountyhealthdept.org](http://www.polkcountyhealthdept.org) or find us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/PolkCountyHealthDepartment/>

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