



MEMORANDUM

TO: Residents of West Allis/West Milwaukee

FROM: Bob Leischow, MPH
Health Commissioner

DATE: April 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Cluster map

Dear Residents,

During this unprecedented time in recent public history there are many concerns and questions. Because Covid-19 (or Coronavirus) is a new virus, individuals have no immunity to it; and unfortunately to this point there is not a simple vaccine to help prevent its transmission. This results in "community spread". "Community spread" means the spread of an illness for which the source of infection is unknown. Another way to contract the virus is through exposure to a traveler who was infected or to an asymptomatic person (someone who didn't have any symptoms) but was carrying the virus (this person is considered asymptomatic). Both of these factors have contributed to this becoming a pandemic.

Throughout Wisconsin the number of positive cases continues to increase, but there are even more negative test results. This is also true here locally in Milwaukee County and West Allis/West Milwaukee. Based on maps that are available to the general public for viewing, certain media outlets have reported a particular area in West Allis as a "hot spot". A "hot spot" is interpreted to mean a larger dot where there are more positive cases in a particular geographic area. A larger dot can be attributed to the number of positive cases at a particular location or various locations in that particular geographic area. Within this larger dot, we are actively working with a facility where there are a number of cases; those who may have been exposed to a positive case have been contacted by the Health Department.

Generally, regardless of dot size the Health Department is actively working with all facilities, households and individuals where there are positive cases to support them in their isolation. All individuals who may have been exposed to a positive case have been contacted and offered support by the Health Department.

Regardless of the size of the dots on the map, the existence of the numerous dots reinforce that there is community spread. The Health Department proactively works with all facilities, households and individuals where positive cases exist to assure proper measures are being taken to help prevent and control further spread of the disease. This includes reinforcing Governor Evers Safer at Home order, isolating and quarantining, maintaining physical/social distancing, proper hygiene, wearing PPE when appropriate, etc.

We are all in this together and we need your help to get through this.
Please remember to:

- Follow the Governor Tony Evers [Safer at Home Order](#) to prevent the spread of coronavirus
- Limit unnecessary outings during this time
- [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds



- Avoid touching your eyes nose and mouth
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze with a tissue, sleeve or your arm
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick

If you are seeking information regarding COVID-19, you can call 211, visit 211Wisconsin.org, the West Allis Health Department website (www.westalliswi.gov/coronavirus), contact the Health Department at 414-302-8600 or email us at health@westalliswi.gov.

Yours in health,
West Allis Health Department