



November 6, 2020

Good afternoon,

With the rising number of COVID-19 cases and our key indicators no longer reflecting conditions where it is safe to participate in non-essential public gatherings and outings, the West Allis Health Department has joined other suburban Milwaukee County Health Departments by strongly recommending all residents and businesses fall back to [PHASE B of the Safe Opening Capacity Guidance](#).

Guidelines/recommendations specific to Phase B include but not limited to:

- Public gatherings up to 10 people;
- Up to 50% capacity/occupancy for retail establishments, bars, restaurants, and spa/salon services.

Due to the rapid and significant increase in disease activity, the following groups that test positive for COVID-19 will be prioritized for follow up by the Health Department:

- Age 65 and older;
- Children who are 19 years old and younger;
- College age students;
- Individuals that are connected to a facility outbreak or potential outbreak;
- All other individuals will be contacted as capacity allows

What can businesses expect as a result of this prioritization? When notified of a positive case, we will contact the employer to inform them of the positive case(s). Workplaces will be asked to identify and notify employees of possible exposure and instructions for quarantine if they are a close contact to a confirmed case. Businesses can reach out to us with any questions.

Risk mitigation is of primary importance this fall and winter. For businesses, we encourage you to visit the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation ([WEDC](#)) and Occupational Safety and Health Association ([OSHA](#)) websites for information on safe business practices in your respective industries. The mitigation strategies offered by these agencies can further support our collective efforts to slow the spread. If you have a safety plan and would like feedback, or if you are interested in developing one, feel free to reach out to one of our Environmentalist's.

Our top priority is to keep our residents, visitors, and businesses healthy and safe during this unprecedented health crisis. We hope these efforts will help to keep our friends, neighbors, relatives, and co-workers in a safer environment moving forward.

Although these guidelines are not mandatory, everyone should play a part in helping to prevent the ongoing spread of the coronavirus. Recommended transition back to Phase C is contingent on improvements to the data.

We at the health department appreciate your cooperation in complying with these guidelines for the safety of your employees, patrons, and public. If you have any questions, please contact one of our Environmentalists by calling 414-302-8600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Leischow".

Robert Leischow, MPH
Health Commissioner