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Public Health

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**NEWS RELEASE**

To: Local Media

From: Marie-Noel Sandoval, MPH, Health Officer

Date: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**COVID-19 Weekday Update**

As of today at 2:00pm, there are 3,428 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in the State of Wisconsin. Statewide, 154 individuals have died due to complications related to COVID-19. There are a total of 60 confirmed positive cases in Rock County and three deaths. There have been a minimum of 1,002 negative tests results reported in our county.

The third confirmed death was a resident of Oak Park Place who had been confirmed positive and was hospitalized. As of today, there have been 12 individuals that have tested positive for COVID-19 at Oak Park Place; 9 residents and 3 staff. Two residents have passed away from COVID-19 related complications.

Please visit our website, [www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth) for additional local COVID-19 information updated daily.

**Recreational Travel Advisory**

Today, the Rock County Public Health Department issued a recreational travel advisory to help protect the health of community members, in response to concerns about unnecessary travel to Rock County for leisure or recreational purposes during the ongoing COVID-19 emergency. Non-essential lodging travel can include stays at hotels, motels, camping, or staying with friends and family, if the intent is for leisure or recreational purposes. You can view the travel advisory on the Rock County Public Health Department website; [www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth](http://www.co.rock.wi.us/publichealth)

The Rock County Public Health Department advises people to stay at home and not to travel to Rock County for leisure or recreational purposes in effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Facilities such as hotels, B&B's, vacation rentals and campgrounds are not required to close under the Safer at Home Order since they may serve as lodging for people conducting essential activities. However, the intent wasn't to allow the use of these facilities for recreational activities. The Governor's order does specifically restrict non-essential travel. People with vacation homes or second homes in Rock County should stay at their permanent residence. These recreational travel restrictions are enforceable.

We would like to thank the recreational lodging and campground operators for their cooperation during this health emergency. We hope that you will soon be able to return to full operations as the threat of the virus spreading is reduced.

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