



# Florence County Health Department

501 Lake Ave PO Box 410 Florence, Wisconsin 54121 715-528-4837  
A.Seibold, RN, MS Health Officer/Director



## ORDER OF FLORENCE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

**DATE OF ORDER: MAY 28, 2020 11:30AM**

**WHEREAS**, on December 2019, a novel strain of the coronavirus was detected, now named COVID-19, and it has spread throughout the world, including every state in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern;

**WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, the Governor declared a public health emergency in the State of Wisconsin in response to COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, on March 13, 2020, the President proclaimed a National Emergency in response to COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, millions of people around the world have tested positive for COVID-19, including more than one million people in the United States, and thousands of people in Wisconsin;

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 is present throughout Wisconsin, including in Florence County;

**WHEREAS**, Wisconsin State Law provides broad authority and power for local health officials to prevent, control, and suppress COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, Wis. Stat. § 252.03(1) provides that every local health officer “shall promptly take all measures necessary to prevent, suppress and control communicable diseases”;

**WHEREAS**, Wis. Stat. § 252.03(2) provides that local health officers “may do what is reasonable and necessary for prevention and suppression of disease”;

**WHEREAS**, Wis. Stat. § 252.03(2) also provides that local health officers “may forbid public gatherings when deemed necessary to control outbreaks or epidemics”;

**WHEREAS**, public health experts advise that a coordinated approach across political boundaries is needed to combat COVID-19, and people and

businesses in Florence County will benefit from a unified, consistent approach;

**WHEREAS**, as required by Wis. Stat. § 252.03(1), the Florence County Health Department investigated the circumstances of COVID-19 appearing locally and made a full report to Florence County Board Chairman and the Department of Health Services;

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services published the DHS Model Guidelines for Safer at Home, which provides social distancing guidelines informed by Wisconsin public health experts and is consistent with recommendations by the President and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

**WHEREAS**, based on the specific circumstances in Florence County and my investigation of COVID-19 in Florence County, I have determined that following the metrics of the Northern Region plan allows for re-opening for Florence County with the encouragement to following public health guidelines.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Annette Seibold, public health officer for Florence County, by the authority vested in me by the Laws of the State, including but not limited to Section 252.03 (1) (2) of the Wisconsin Statutes, rescind and end the PH order issued On May 14<sup>th</sup>

Guidance and best practice are found on Wisconsin's Economic Development Corporation's website: <https://wedc.org/essentialbusiness/> and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

This Order shall become effective at 11:30 a.m. on May 28, 2020. This Order shall remain in effect until a superseding order is issued.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Annette Seibold  
Public Health Officer

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