



Bayfield County Health Department

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fourth Case of COVID-19 Confirms Community Spread in Bayfield County

The Bayfield County Health Department has identified a fourth case of COVID-19 in Bayfield County. The patient had recently attended a large gathering and was believed to have been exposed at that event.

“As our area returns to normal activities, this new positive case reaffirms the presence of COVID-19 in our community and evidence that community spread in our area is still occurring.” said Sara Wartman, Health Officer for Bayfield County. She went on to state, “This report highlights the importance of practicing COVID-19 prevention, such as continuing to practice physical distancing, cleaning commonly touched surfaces, frequent and thorough hand washing, as well as wearing a mask when out in public. County residents must be vigilant to disrupt the spread of the virus.”

The patient became ill on July 1st after attending a hockey tournament on June 27th and 28th in Ashland, Wisconsin. It is believed they were exposed to COVID-19 during the event. Bayfield County Health Department is encouraging anyone who attended this event to get tested for COVID-19.

“If you attended this event and are experiencing symptoms, we encourage you to get tested at a local clinic as soon as possible,” Wartman stated. “There is also an upcoming free testing event on Friday, July 10th from 11 AM – 7 PM at the Iron River Community Center in Iron River, Wisconsin. No symptoms are needed to be tested at that event.”

Public health efforts are focused on identifying the patient’s close contacts and mitigating the impact of this virus. Anyone identified as potentially at risk will be contacted by the health department. When impossible to determine all persons exposed, additional information will be added to the Bayfield County COVID-19 webpage with locations of possible exposure. Bayfield County Public Health is working closely with other health departments in the response to this new case.

“Practicing COVID-19 prevention practices, limiting close face-to-face contact with others, and self-isolating when ill are the best ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community,” reported Wartman.

For local updates about COVID-19 and other public health news, follow the Bayfield County Health Department at <https://www.bayfieldcounty.org/COVID>

For updates on COVID-19 in WI, visit <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>.

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