



October 5, 2020

Marathon County has a very high level of COVID cases. This surge in cases has exceeded Marathon County Health Department's ability to do timely disease investigation and contact tracing. In response, Marathon County Health Department must focus disease investigations and contact tracing on higher-risk, vulnerable populations. Therefore, it may be several days before a person with a positive Covid-19 test result is contacted and that person's work close contacts identified. Gatherings that bring many people together such as yours, and weddings, showers, sporting events can contribute to the increased spread of disease. Large gatherings are super-spreader events.

It is imperative that the guidelines you've developed to limit spread of Covid-19 among attendees for your event be carried out. If you are made aware of a Covid-19 symptomatic or test positive individual, you are encouraged to ask the person to not attend your event. If you are made aware during or after the event, inform attendees of a possible exposure and advise the attendees to monitor themselves for Covid-19 symptoms. A complete list of Covid-19 symptoms is available at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/symptoms.htm>. Individuals identified as close contacts to a Covid-19 symptomatic individual or someone who tested positive are advised to self-quarantine at home.

The following are helpful resources to share with event attendees who share they have had a positive test or to share with attendees when you are aware of a positive participant. For more on the guidance provided for residents who test positive or are close contacts, visit our website at <https://www.co.marathon.wi.us/Departments/HealthDepartment/COVID19.aspx>

- **Did you test positive? Isolation Guidance (.pdf)** [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Hmong](#)
- **Are you a contact? Quarantine Guidance (.pdf)** [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Hmong](#)

The following is an appropriate language for signage at the event.

What the Public Can Do

- Watch your distance, stay 6 feet from others who don't live in your household. When gathering with other people, limit the number of people. Avoid group gatherings where physical distancing is hard to maintain.
- Wear a cloth face covering when indoors or in an enclosed space, other than at a private residence.
- Stay home if you are sick, or under isolation or quarantine.
- Wash your hands frequently. Avoid touching your face. Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.

Everyone's efforts toward reducing the number of positive cases is needed at this time to enable children to learn in person, ensure employees can go to work, and build consumer confidence in businesses for thriving communities in Marathon County. Please reach out to me if you have any questions. Thank you.