



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT ISSUES RULING IN LEGISLATURE V PALM

CHEQUAMEGON BAY, NORTHERN WI (May 14, 2020) – The Wisconsin State Supreme Court issued its ruling in the case of Legislature v Palm on May 13, 2020. The court ruled that Secretary-designee Palm did not have the singular authority to extend the Safer at Home order to May 26. The Court said the action required emergency rule making procedure, which was not executed by the Department. The Court has struck down the extension of the Safer at Home order.

Ashland and Bayfield Counties want to remind everyone that everything can possibly change based on a mutual plan developed by the legislature and the Governor's office in the future and that this is a continuously evolving situation.

Ashland and Bayfield Counties currently do not have plans to issue local orders or laws regarding the striking down of the extension of the Safer at Home order. However, we are developing criteria and looking at utilizing local ordinances to dial back should an outbreak occur and impacts the safety of our friends, families, and communities.

It is vitally important for individuals to continue to practice social distancing and good hygiene. People should continue to maintain six (6) feet between themselves and non-household members whenever possible. In the event that it is not possible to maintain adequate social distancing, Ashland and Bayfield Public Health Departments strongly encourage the use of facemasks or coverings when in close proximity to others. Frequent handwashing and cleaning of commonly touched surfaces is strongly recommended.

Pending further direction and guidelines or the mutual development of a plan by the legislature and the Governor's office, Ashland and Bayfield Counties **strongly encourage** businesses that wish to reopen to follow the guidelines set forth by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC). We **strongly recommend** these businesses consider adequate social distancing to be maintained between customers and employees when determining capacity. We also encourage businesses to **develop a COVID-19 plan** that includes screening of staff for illness, disinfection and cleaning protocols, and proper physical distancing considerations for customers and employees.

This continues to be rapidly evolving situation. Ashland and Bayfield County Public Health, as well as Wisconsin Department of Health Services, are doing what they can to promptly communicate updates and information.

For the most up-to-date information regarding COVID-19 please check out the following resources below:

Ashland County's COVID-19 website: https://co.ashland.wi.us/covid_19

Ashland County Health Dept. Facebook:

www.facebook.com/AshlandCountyHealthHumanServicesPublicHealth/

Bayfield County's COVID-19 website: www.BayfieldCounty.org/COVID

Bayfield County Health Department Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BayfieldCountyHealthDept

CDC website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV

DHS website: www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/

WEDC website: <https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/>

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