



# Bayfield County Health Department

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### THIRD CASE OF COVID-19 REAFFIRMS COMMUNITY SPREAD IN BAYFIELD COUNTY

Bayfield County, WI—The Bayfield County Health Department has identified a third case of COVID-19 in Bayfield County. The patient, who is currently hospitalized, had not traveled outside the area and had no contact with any individuals diagnosed with COVID-19. “The third positive case received today, March 31, 2020, reaffirms the presence of COVID-19 in our community and evidence that community spread is occurring.” said Sara Wartman, Health Officer for Bayfield County. She went on to state, “This report highlights the importance of following Governor Ever’s ‘Safer at Home’ order. Bayfield County residents must stay home to disrupt the spread of the virus. This is crucial to reducing the spread and flattening the curve.”

The patient, who is in their 70’s, first experienced symptoms of upset stomach which quickly progressed to fever, chest pain and shortness of breath. The patient followed the guidelines and self-isolation orders of their medical provider after initial onset of illness, but then was hospitalized on March 26<sup>th</sup> as symptoms escalated.

Public health efforts are focused on both containing spread and mitigating the impact of this virus. The health department is working to complete a comprehensive investigation of cases of COVID-19 and this case is under active investigation. Anyone identified as potentially at risk will be contacted by the health department.

We ask the community to do their part to slow the spread of COVID-19 by:

- Staying home
- Canceling non-essential appointments.
- Designating one person in your household to go out for supplies.
- Limiting your trips to once per week if possible.

Staying home, social distancing, and self-isolating are the best ways we can prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

For local updates about COVID-19 and other public health news, follow the Bayfield County Health Department at [www.bayfieldcounty.org/COVID](http://www.bayfieldcounty.org/COVID). For updates on COVID-19 in Wisconsin, visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm).

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