



WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

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Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: August 3, 2020

WCMA offers member bulletins regarding coronavirus resources on Mondays and Thursdays, and as news warrants. WCMA delivers electronic newsletters with broader content on Tuesdays. Please contact [WCMA staff](#) with any questions.

As Wisconsin Mask Mandate Takes Effect, Enforcement in Question, Lawmakers May Act

On Saturday, August 1, an order from Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers [mandating the use of face coverings](#) indoors and in enclosed spaces took effect. The Evers Administration has issued [answers to frequently asked questions](#), to help those interested in compliance details and exemptions.

Enforcement

Unlike the Safer at Home order, violations of the Governor's face covering order are not subject to criminal penalty. The Wisconsin [Department of Justice noted](#) late last week, however, that intentional violations could result in a fine of \$200. Public health and law enforcement officials have the authority to refer violations to district attorneys for action.

Sheriffs in Adams, Brown, Burnett, Dodge, Florence, Fond du Lac, Forest, Grant, Green, Iron, La Crosse, Lafayette, Langlade, Lincoln, Monroe, Oneida, Ozaukee, Portage, Racine, Taylor, Vernon, Vilas, Walworth, Washburn, Washington, Waukesha, Waupaca, and Wood counties have publicly stated [they will not enforce](#) the Governor's order.

Potential Legislative Action

[Some Wisconsin Republican lawmakers are calling for a legislative session](#) to overturn the order.

State Senate Majority Leader Scott [Fitzgerald \(R-Juneau\)](#) announced late Friday that his caucus members "stand ready to convene the body to end the Governor's order, which includes the mask mandate," though he has not announced a session date. Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) has not announced his position.

Both houses would need to approve a resolution to overturn the order; Gov. Evers would have no veto authority.

Wisconsin Congressional Republicans Call for Support for Milk Donation Reimbursement Program

U.S. Representatives Mike Gallagher, Tom Tiffany, Bryan Steil, Glenn Grothman, and Jim Sensenbrenner - all Republicans from Wisconsin - are calling on their colleagues to help them ensure funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Milk Donation Reimbursement Program is included in the next round of coronavirus relief. In a recent [letter to Congressional leaders](#), they praise the program for directing nutritious dairy products to food-insecure households.

Coronavirus Headline News

Dairy Industry

- *Associated Press (via KSTP-TV):* [As U.S. milk sales rise amid pandemic, 'Got milk?' ads return](#)
- *KGO-TV:* [Marin cheese maker finds a way to survive big drop in sales by giving away its award-winning cheese](#)
- *Observer-Dispatch:* [New York company makes sanitizer from dairy](#)
- *CNN:* [Nearly 30 million Americans told the Census Bureau they didn't have enough to eat last week](#)

Wisconsin

- *Green Bay Press Gazette:* [Coronavirus in Wisconsin: 922 new confirmed cases, one additional death](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel:* ['This has been the year of worry': Wisconsin tourism businesses are concerned with Chicago's new travel restrictions.](#)

National/International

- *Politico:* [Leaders duel over coronavirus relief bill](#)
- *Wall Street Journal:* [How Trump can provide tax relief without Congress](#)
- *Wall Street Journal:* [U.S. sees smallest daily rise in coronavirus in weeks](#)
- *New York Times:* [After plummeting, virus soars in the Midwest](#)
- *Reuters:* [U.S. coronavirus 'extraordinarily widespread,' White House experts say](#)
- *KHOU-TV:* [FDA approves development of at-home COVID-19 tests. Here's how it would work](#)
- *FOX Business:* [Smithfield stops fighting OSHA coronavirus investigation subpoena after South Dakota outbreak](#)
- *Reuters:* [COVID-19 long-term toll signals billions in healthcare costs ahead](#)

Visit [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org) for More Resources

WCMA will provide links to new and timely coronavirus resources for members in these bulletins, but we want to alert you that we update our coronavirus resources page on [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org) daily. Please visit the page for additional information on employee safety, regulatory flexibility, operations guidance, federal and state support, and ways to salute your critical, essential staff.

WCMA Key Contacts

WCMA staff is continuously reaching out to dairy manufacturer and processor members throughout this crisis to identify ways we can be of service. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at any time. Here are ways to get in touch.

- WCMA Executive Director John Umhoefer: jumhoefer@wischeesemakers.org or 608-225-7130
 - WCMA Communications, Education, and Policy Director Rebekah Sweeney: rsweeney@wischeesemakers.org or 608-386-3012
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