



WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

EST. 1891

Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: March 24, 2020

WCMA Members:

Continuing as often news and needs warrant, Wisconsin Cheese Makers Association will distribute special bulletins alerting you to information and resources related to industry operations and coronavirus (COVID-19). Please be assured your WCMA staff is working to support you through this challenging period. Thank you for your important work.

Evers Issues "Safer at Home" Order, Exempts Dairy Processing, Agriculture & Other Essential Workers

Moments ago, Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers issued a "Safer at Home" order to slow the spread of coronavirus. The order takes effect at 8 a.m. Wednesday, March 25 and remains in effect until 8 a.m. on Friday, April 24, or until another order is issued. [The detailed, 14-page order is available here.](#)

In Section 10, beginning on page six, Evers notes that all food production, distribution, and fulfillment businesses are exempt from this order. Essential businesses and operations are further defined in Section 13, beginning on page nine, and include all businesses listed in the [U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Memorandum on Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce](#), which includes agriculture and food production. The Evers order also specifically calls out food and beverage production, transport and agriculture, in Section 13, Part C.

Industry suppliers are noted in Section 13, Part R, wherein businesses that sell, manufacture or supply other essential business can remain open. Food, food additives, ingredients are noted in this supplier list, as well as sanitary equipment, chemicals, paper products, soaps and detergents and more. Likewise, critical trades in building and construction, noted in Section 13, Part N, can remain open, including building and construction trades, fabricators, pipe trades, plumbers, electricians, masonry and more.

If you have a question about the order, [please contact WCMA staff.](#)

Evers' Order Creates Priority Tiers for Child Care

With today's order, Gov. Evers also created two tiers for the provision of child care services, prioritizing health care workers first. The second tier includes workers in the critical essential infrastructure, noting those in food services and supply chain operations. [See page 11 for more information.](#)

Congress Signals Vote to Approve \$2 Trillion Coronavirus Relief Package Coming

Top congressional and White House officials expect to reach a deal today on a \$2 trillion measure aimed at easing the economic losses incurred as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. WCMA staff is advocating for businesses and agricultural aids, and will have analysis to members following a successful vote. For more on current negotiations, see the news articles linked below.

- *USA Today*: [Congressional leaders signal massive stimulus vote coming within hours](#)
 - *FOX News*: [McConnell says 'clock has run out' on coronavirus negotiations, urges vote today](#)
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Coronavirus Headline News

Wisconsin:

- *WISC-TV*: [Number of positive coronavirus cases reaches 426 in Wisconsin, five deaths](#)
- *Wisconsin State Journal*: [State \[insurance\] order designed to help restaurants deliver during crisis](#)
- *WMTV-TV*: [Insurers ordered to waive extra cost for delivery service](#)

National/International:

- *Dairy Reporter*: [Milk powder sales rocket during coronavirus crisis](#)
 - *Bloomberg*: [Consumers drop kale and quinoa to lock down with chips and Oreos](#)
 - *NBC News*: [U.S. and Europe tighten lockdowns as restrictions lift in China](#)
 - *Philadelphia Inquirer*: [U.S. reports 100 coronavirus deaths in a single day](#)
 - *CNBC*: [Stocks rally on hopes coronavirus rescue bill is close](#)
 - *New York Times*: [Trump considers reopening economy, over health experts' objections](#)
 - *Reuters*: [Trump says getting supplies "not easy" but companies cooperating](#)
 - *MSN*: [State-by-state coronavirus news](#)
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Other Coronavirus Resources

WCMA will continue to provide links to both new and essential coronavirus resources for members in these bulletins, but we also want to alert you to a page we've created [WisCheeseMakers.org](#) with links to much more. Please visit the page for additional information on employee safety, operations guidance, and federal and state support.

Dairy Food Safety Alliance Resources:

- [Standard operating procedure template addressing COVID-19 positive worker](#)
- [Coronavirus FAQs](#)
- [Employer guidance](#)
- [Printable mental health hotline poster](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Resources:

- [Interim guidance for businesses and employers](#)
- [Printable one-page guidance posters for the prevention of disease spread](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Resources:

- [Coronavirus and food](#)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services Resources:

- [Coronavirus basics](#)
- [Outbreak tracking](#)

WCMA Key Contacts

WCMA staff is continuously reaching out to dairy manufacturer and processor member 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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