



# WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

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## Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: May 11, 2020

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). Your WCMA staff is here to support you, and we thank you for your important work.

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### WDATCP Inspectors Will Follow Industry SOPs, Submit to Temperature Checks, Wear PPE

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP) today announced [all inspectors will follow industry standard operating procedures](#) that comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Occupational Safety and Health Administration guidelines.

Businesses may require inspectors use personal protective equipment and submit to temperature screenings, though they may not retain a WDATCP employee's protected health information, including a temperature reading.

WCMA staff has worked closely with WDATCP officials on this important change in practice, and we thank Interim Secretary Randy Romanski, Division of Food and Recreational Safety Administrator Steve Ingham, and Director of Field Services Tim Anderson for their responsiveness to industry needs.

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### Evers: Retail Stores May Reopen with Restrictions

With [Wisconsin now meeting three of six criteria in the 'Badger Bounce Back' plan](#), Governor Tony Evers today announced all retail stores may reopen, so long as they limit the number of customers to five. Other, essential businesses may remain open as previously determined. Complete details are available in [Emergency Order 36](#), and the updated [Safer at Home FAQ](#).

Other Midwestern states are also considering the next steps in reopening. Here's a look as associated headlines:

- *FOX News:* [America reopening: Dozens of states including Ohio, Michigan easing restrictions this week](#)

- *Bring Me The News:* [Next businesses to open in Minnesota likely smaller retailers](#)
  - *WIFR-TV:* [Dental offices in Illinois can start reopening for routine care](#)
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## Bankers Share PPP Loan Forgiveness Calculator

The Wisconsin Bankers Association and Financial Institution Products Corporation have launched a new tool to help lenders - and small business owners - understand Paycheck Protection Program loan forgiveness eligibility. The [simple, fillable form](#) is downloadable and free to use.

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## USDA Awards Butter, Cheddar Cheese Contracts

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced [trade mitigation purchases of butter and cheddar cheese](#) have been awarded to WCMA members Associated Milk Producers, Inc., Dairy Farmers of America, Masters Gallery Foods, Prairie Farms, Schreiber Foods, and Winona Foods.

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## Coronavirus Headline News

### Wisconsin:

- *Wisconsin State Farmer:* [Markets show sliver of hope for dairy industry](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel:* [Second Wisconsin meatpacking plant worker dies, infections at food plants exceed 800](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel:* [While concerns remain about reaching people of color, Wisconsin's free coronavirus testing is for everyone](#)
- *WDJT-TV:* [What's taking Wisconsin Supreme Court so long to rule on Safer at Home lawsuit?](#)

### National/International:

- *Dairy Reporter:* [Crisis donations continue](#)
  - *Reuters:* [FDA Commissioner in self-quarantine](#)
  - *FOX Business:* [Waiting for coronavirus stimulus check? Direct deposit information due Wednesday, IRS says](#)
  - *Associated Press:* ['Temporary' layoffs may be permanent](#)
  - *Reuters:* [White House considers more coronavirus aid as jobs picture worsens](#)
  - *USA Today:* [White House adopts new safety precautions](#)
  - *CNN:* [Predicted COVID-19 death toll rising as states reopen](#)
  - *Wall Street 24/7:* [Global cases near 4.1 million](#)
  - *MSN:* [State-by-state coronavirus news](#)
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## Visit 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](#) 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.

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## 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](mailto:jumhoefer@wischeesemakers.org) or 608-225-7130
  - WCMA Communications, Education, and Policy Director Rebekah Sweeney: [rsweeney@wischeesemakers.org](mailto:rsweeney@wischeesemakers.org) or 608-386-3012
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