



WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

EST. 1891

Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: May 22, 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.

Register Now for WCMA Webinar: What Happens When An Employee Tests Positive for COVID-19

WCMA invites members to join in a **free, educational webinar on Wednesday, June 3 from 1-2 p.m.** The webinar will offer a practical look at what happens when an employee tests positive for COVID-19, and best practices both for prevention and for successful management of a confirmed case.

We're pleased to announce that Dr. Jonathan Meiman, Wisconsin Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist for Occupational and Environmental Health, and Green County Public Health Officer RoAnn Warden will present, alongside WCMA staff.

Webinar topics include:

- Prevalence of outbreaks in food processing facilities in Wisconsin
- Best practices for prevention
- What information is asked of an employer, in the event of a positive
- Investigations and the role of contact tracers
- How determinations regarding continued operations are made

Please RSVP to [WCMA Office and Member Services Manager Sara Schmidt](#) with your interest in joining and include any questions you may wish to ask. You'll receive access information for the webinar (or telephone call-in option) in reply.

USDA Offering \$1 Billion in Rural Business Loans

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced on Thursday it will make up to [\\$1 billion in loan guarantees available to rural businesses](#), with the purpose of helping to meet their working capital needs during the coronavirus pandemic. Via the new

Business and Industry Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security will provide 90 percent guarantees and extend the maximum term for these working capital loans to ten years.

Complete details on eligibility and how to apply are [available now online](#). The application deadline is June 22, 2020, or until available funds are expended.



Focus Friday: Problem Solving Strategies

WCMA is proud to bring you *Focus Friday*, highlighting leadership strategies to help you motivate your team and move your business forward.

Be sure to check out a new, free e-book, [Leadership. Not Cancelled. Leading in Challenging Times](#), from our leadership training instructor [Cyndi Wentland](#) of [Intentional Leaders](#).

This week, [Cyndi offers a quick, easy-to-read guide on empowering and engaging your employees to solve problems](#).

Coronavirus Headline News

Dairy Industry:

- [WKOW-TV: Wisconsin farmers thankful for help from state, federal government](#)
- [KOIN-TV: How Tillamook dodged supply chain snags during COVID](#)

Wisconsin:

- [La Crosse Tribune: Biden, Kind discuss how rural Wisconsin is at core of economic recovery in wake of COVID-19](#)
- [WGBA-TV: Demand for food assistance grows across Wisconsin](#)
- [Milwaukee BizTimes: Wisconsin unemployment jumps to 14.1 percent](#)
- [WISN-TV: Wisconsin State Fair still up in the air](#)

National/International:

- [USA Today: Cheap chicken, beef came at a cost. How American meat plants bred coronavirus hot spots.](#)
 - [ABC News: Employers struggle to compete with \\$600 coronavirus payments](#)
 - [MSN: State-by-state coronavirus news](#)
-

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.

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
-