



# WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

EST. 1891

## Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: November 19, 2020

*WCMA distributes member bulletins focused on coronavirus information on Thursdays and as breaking news warrants. WCMA delivers electronic newsletters with broader content on Tuesdays. Please contact [WCMA staff](#) with any questions.*

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### Evers Extends Wisconsin Mask Mandate

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers Wednesday announced he will [sign orders](#) this week declaring a State of Emergency and extending the statewide face mask mandate through mid-January.

Earlier this week, the Wisconsin Supreme Court heard [arguments in a lawsuit](#) challenging Governor Tony Evers' authority to issue multiple health emergency orders. A ruling in the case is expected in several weeks.

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### Evers, GOP Leaders Detail COVID-19 Legislation

Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers this week detailed a [package of COVID-19 bills](#), including proposals to ban evictions and foreclosures through the end of the year, waiving the one-week waiting period for unemployment benefits, and requiring insurers to cover COVID-19 testing, treatment, and vaccination.

Meantime, Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (R-Rochester) noted Wednesday that [Republicans favor](#) boosts to the state's COVID-19 testing system, including doubling the number of contact tracers, reform of the unemployment insurance system, and additional small business relief.

Evers noted his expectation that Republican leaders will meet with him Friday to discuss the terms of a legislative package, which Vos said could be voted on in December.

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### Walz Orders New Restrictions in Minnesota

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz Wednesday announced a [four-week "dial-back"](#) in an

effort to curb the spread of COVID-19. Issuing orders which take effect Friday, Walz is prohibiting indoor social gatherings of any size, limiting restaurants and bars to take-out and delivery only, and closing gyms, movie theaters and other indoor entertainment facilities.

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## CDC Updates Thanksgiving Gathering Guidance

Officials from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Thursday [updated guidance](#) related to Thanksgiving gatherings, asking Americans to avoid all travel for the holiday and to take various precautionary measures with anyone who is not an immediate member of their household.

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## IRS, Treasury Clarify Stance on PPP & Deductions

The Internal Revenue Service and U.S. Department of Treasury late Wednesday issued [joint guidance](#) noting that business owners who "reasonably believe" their Paycheck Protection Program loan will be forgiven in the future may not deduct those costs from their taxes, regardless of their forgiveness filing status.

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## CFAP Round 2 Payments Now Total \$10 Billion

The U.S. Department of Agriculture this week reports it has [distributed \\$10 billion](#) in direct relief payments to farmers via the second round of its Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), including \$980 million to dairy farmers. USDA will continue to accept applications for CFAP 2 monies through December 11.

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## Coronavirus Headline News

### Dairy Industry

- *WQOW-TV*: [COVID-19 impact on Wisconsin dairy farmers](#)
- *Brownfields Ag Network*: [Economist says COVID is raising fluid milk consumption](#)

### Wisconsin

- *WBAY-TV*: [Wisconsin nears 8,000 confirmed coronavirus cases, setting new one-day record](#)
- *WISC-TV*: [As hospitalizations rise, doctors struggle to admit patients to Wisconsin's field hospital](#)
- *Spectrum News*: [Nearly 91 percent of Wisconsin's ICU beds are currently in use](#)
- *Wisconsin Public Radio*: [To make room for 'sickest of the sick,' Wausau hospital will send some COVID-19 patients home](#)
- *La Crosse Tribune*: [Mayo opens COVID-19 Outpatient Therapy Center in hopes of reducing coronavirus hospitalizations](#)
- *WTMJ-TV*: [Miller Park COVID-19 testing site adds Saturday hours](#)
- *Beaver Dam Daily Citizen*: [Dodge County COVID numbers continue to rise, citizens urged to take more precautions](#)

### National/International

- *Reuters*: [U.S. COVID-19 hospitalizations jump nearly 50 percent in two weeks, ushering in new shutdowns](#)
  - *Associated Press*: [Heading into holidays, U.S. COVID-19 testing strained again](#)
  - *Associated Press*: [‘Tired to the bone’: Hospitals overwhelmed with virus cases](#)
  - *New York Times*: [743,000 people filed new unemployment claims last week](#)
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## Visit [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org) for More Resources

WCMA's coronavirus resources page on [WisCheeseMakers.org](https://www.wischeesemakers.org) is updated daily, featuring 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

Members with pandemic-related questions or concerns should feel encouraged to contact WCMA staff 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
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