



WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION

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Coronavirus Information and Resources

Bulletin Distributed: March 27, 2020

WCMA Members:

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.

FDA to Allow Retail Sale of Products Packaged for Use in Restaurants, Lacking Nutrition Facts Label

The U.S. [Food and Drug Administration](#) has announced it will not object to the retail sale of food packaged for use in restaurants and lacking a Nutrition Facts label, as our nation faces the coronavirus crisis.

This policy change takes immediate effect and will remain in effect for the duration of the public health emergency declared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, including any renewals made by the Secretary.

The [complete FDA guidance](#) notes that products may be sold at retail so long as they still note the following:

- a statement of identity,
- ingredients,
- the name and place of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor,
- net quantity; and
- allergen information required by the [Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act](#).

FDA has also announced it will work cooperatively with manufacturers for the remainder of 2020 regarding the use of updated Nutrition and Supplement Facts labels, and will not focus on enforcement this year.

House Debates \$2 Trillion Stimulus Package

The U.S. House of Representatives began its debate this morning over the \$2 trillion economic stimulus package, approved unanimously by the Senate earlier this week. While there is strong bipartisan support and backing from the White House, a Kentucky Republican says he will insist on a roll call vote, a move which would delay passage.

For more on the debate, see these news articles:

- *New York Times*: [House vote on \\$2 trillion relief package faces delay](#)
 - *FOX News*: [House debates coronavirus relief; GOP rep under fire from White House](#)
 - *Politico*: [Who got special deals in the stimulus package and why](#)
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Let's Get Social... From A Distance

WMCA will be using its social media platforms, including its Championship Cheese accounts with significant consumer following, in the coming weeks for two purposes:

- To draw consumer attention to processor/manufacturers selling products for home delivery, and
- To recognize and thank your employees, working hard through the coronavirus crisis to feed the world.

If you would like to highlight your business or staff, please [contact WCMA staff](#) for more information.

Headline News

Wisconsin:

- *WITI-TV*: [784 positive cases of COVID-19 in Wisconsin](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*: [Wisconsin death toll jumps to 12 as unemployment skyrockets and governments scramble to give aid](#)
- *WISN-TV*: [Coronavirus panic helps dairy farmers, but closures hurt](#)
- *Wisconsin State Farmer*: [Foremost Farms asking farmers to voluntarily production due to coronavirus](#)
- *Appleton Post Crescent*: [No, you won't get pulled over simply for leaving home, Wisconsin police say](#)
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*: [Wisconsin gas prices plummet to 99 cents a gallon](#)

National/International:

- *New York Times*: [U.S. now leads the world in confirmed coronavirus cases](#)
 - *CNN*: [Peak of health crisis is yet to come](#)
 - *Associated Press*: [Trump says feds developing new guidelines for virus risk](#)
 - *CNBC*: [Stocks fall sharply after massive three-day rally](#)
 - *Dairy Reporter*: [Dairy donates time, money, and food amid coronavirus](#)
 - *DBA Da*
 - *WWNY-TV*: [Great Lakes Cheese hiring, despite coronavirus shutdowns](#)
 - *MSN*: [State-by-state coronavirus news](#)
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Other 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](https://www.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 hygiene posters](#)

U.S. Department of Agriculture Resources:

- [Coronavirus and food](#)

U.S. Department of Labor Resources:

- [Printable FMLA benefits poster](#)

Wisconsin Orders:

- [Safer at Home](#)

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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