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greenfieldwi.us/health

November 6, 2020

To all who live, work, play, and attend school in the City of Greenfield:

Today, the State of Wisconsin is reporting the highest number of new laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began – 6,141 cases – and a seven-day average of over 5,100 cases daily! The increased case numbers statewide and locally are severely straining local public health resources. Further, these increases have caused prioritization of disease investigation, severely limited contact tracing, and have the potential to add further strain on health care and hospital capacity.

Also, today, we are sharing a new data report that will be added to our website and social media at the end of each week. This report shares data related to COVID-19 testing in Greenfield and also sharing the trajectory of the COVID-19 case burden in our community. Both testing and case burden data are important measures to track related to the pandemic, and supplement our weekly COVID-19 dashboard shared each Tuesday.

Regarding testing, in the most recent two week period ending on Tuesday, November 3, a total of 3,026 tests were completed for a testing positivity of 18.2%. For the duration of the pandemic, Greenfield residents have completed 22,750 tests with a positivity of 9.3%. Note that testing positivity is calculated by dividing the total number of positive tests by the total number of tests conducted.

The COVID-19 case burden in Greenfield graphs the rate of cases over a 14-day period and allows for comparison with other jurisdictions in Milwaukee County. Our report provides comparisons to Milwaukee County overall and all suburban communities. Unfortunately, our current data continues to increase rapidly and our rate is one of the highest in Milwaukee County at 1,203 per 100,000 population.

We want to stress that all of you are important in eliminating the transmission of COVID-19 through the following important prevention methods:

- ✓ Wash hand with soap and water frequently. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available:
- ✓ Wear a face covering correctly by completely covering your nose and mouth;
- ✓ Watch your distance to others. Avoid large gatherings and traveling, if possible;

Since the beginning of COVID-19, we understand that community members have adjusted many daily activities to play a part in keeping themselves and others safe. We thank you for your cooperation and resiliency during these challenging times. As we move through the next several months, the Greenfield Health Department will continue to keep you informed through various communication methods, including our <u>website</u> and social media (<u>Facebook</u> and Nextdoor) platforms.

Yours in Health.

Darren J. Rausch, MS, CPH Health Officer/Director

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