CRAWFORD COUNTY-
MOVING FORWARD

Phased Reopening Plan for Crawford County during the COVID-19 Pandemic

MAY 18, 2020

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Crawford County Health & Human Services

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Crawford-Moving Forward Purpose

The COVID-19 pandemic is a significant threat to our county, state, and country and may continue for months or years until a vaccine is developed, but we don't have months or years to wait to act. Our goals are to:

- Reduce the number of people who contract COVID-19
- Reduce the number of people who die from COVID-19

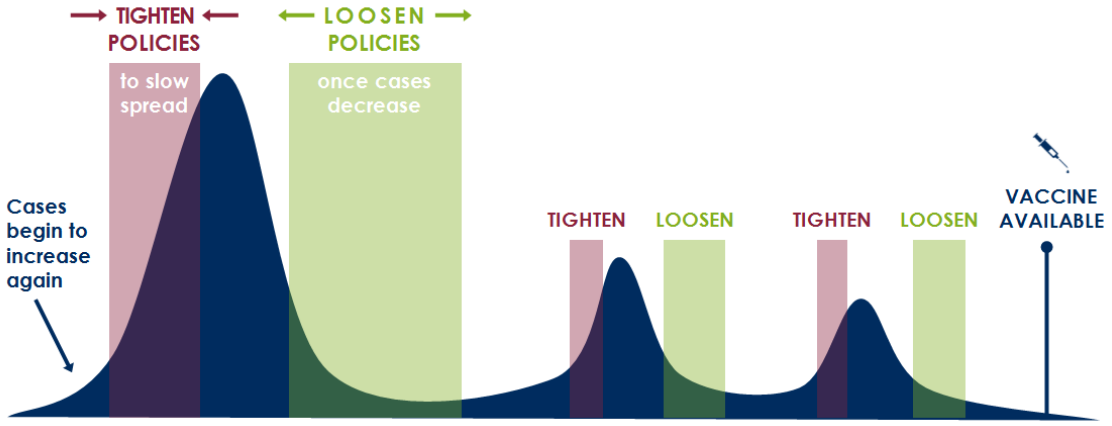
In the absence of a vaccine or treatments specific to COVID-19, population-based mitigation strategies – such as contact tracing, isolation, quarantine and, most notably, strict social or physical distancing such as public health orders like Safer at Home—have saved lives and slowed the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. However, the strictest of these prevention strategies, like Safer at Home, also comes at a significant cost to our economy, businesses, schools, and the health and well-being of our community at large.

While our goal is to keep our residents and communities safe and healthy, we are also committed to re-opening Crawford County in a way that protects our public's health while also building a strong foundation for long-term economic recovery. Our local public health infrastructure is strong. We have built the capacity in our community to test, support isolation and quarantine, conduct prompt contact tracing, and ensure the healthcare system is equipped to handle surges in COVID-19 illness.

However, we must not reopen too quickly or without the tools in place to minimize the spread of the virus. Doing so could threaten the progress we've made and have more significant health and economic consequences. This plan is meant to aid Crawford County Public Health and everyone who lives, learns, works, prays, and plays in Crawford County to think about when and how various community-level activities can be reopened, along with when and how mitigation strategies may need to be reinstated. This document is not meant to replace state or federal guidance but rather to supplement it with localized data and considerations. We will use this plan to think through situations specific to our own community.

This document provides Crawford County-specific data and guidance for how and when we can begin to allow people to interact in a safe way and incrementally reopen businesses using a phased approach. It complements the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' Badger Bounce Back Plan and the guidance provided by the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation so everyone can understand their role in opening up our county.

While we hope that by following this plan our path to reopening will be linear, we cannot predict the path of this virus. It's possible that we may have to tighten or loosen policies so we can all stay safe and healthy and keep our healthcare and public health systems from becoming overwhelmed. We have created Crawford-Moving Forward using data and the best evidence available so we can ensure our peaks stay low and we avoid the need for additional Safer at Home orders.



Responsibilities for Meeting Our Goals

In order to move Crawford County forward, each sector must be aligned in our primary goals:

- Reducing the number of people who contract COVID-19
- Reducing the number of people who die from COVID-19

We all have a critical role to play in meeting these goals. By working together, we all can contribute to keeping people healthy and safe while moving Crawford County forward.

Public Health

Because this pandemic is a public health emergency, public health professionals have the responsibility of tracking the virus and balancing the response. Some of the responsibilities that local public health has include:

- Receiving positive test results from healthcare in order to conduct contact tracing
- Ensuring quarantine and isolation
- Identifying and implementing population-level mitigation strategies and providing guidance for the safe reopening of our community, in alignment with state and federal plans
- Providing guidance and recommendations to businesses, congregate facilities, and individuals to implement infection control best practices and contain outbreaks
- Tracking progress and local data
- Centering equity while communicating with the public and all sectors involved in the response to reduce the spread of illness

Healthcare

Healthcare systems will be on the frontlines of care, identifying individuals with positive diagnoses and caring for them when illness is severe enough to warrant supportive treatment. Additionally, as some of the largest employers in the region, occupational health and safety are also a critical component of what healthcare systems provide at a population level. Specific responsibilities for healthcare include:

- Identifying positive COVID-19 cases through testing; at a minimum, testing symptomatic individuals and contacts of positive cases
- Collaborating with public health and local businesses to test other emerging populations
- Developing plans and increasing capacity in case of a surge, including PPE supplies, ICU capacity, and respiratory capacity
- Using infection control procedures to screen staff for symptoms, test for COVID-19, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in employees

Businesses

The business community plays a critical role as the driver of our economy. To support a safe and successful reopening strategy, we ask for the private sector's support in keeping people healthy so they can safely be at work. To move Crawford County forward, private sector responsibilities include:

- Protecting the health and safety of employees and customers
- Developing flexible sick leave policies and creating a culture in which employees can stay home when they are sick
- Monitoring staff for symptoms and working with local public health if an employee is diagnosed with COVID-19 or is a known contact to someone with COVID-19
- Implementing infection control policies, such as disinfecting surfaces frequently, keeping both employees and customers 6 feet apart from others, and other prevention measures
- Communicating to management, staff, and customers the importance of following prevention measures in order to prevent future outbreaks

Community Members

We ask everyone in Crawford County to:

- Practice good hygiene, including washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into an elbow
- Stay home when sick
- Clean high-touch objects like doorknobs, remotes, cell phones, and light switches frequently
- Follow public health recommendations and population-level prevention strategies, such as maintaining physical distancing, wearing cloth face coverings and limiting mass gatherings.

Crawford-Moving Forward Metrics

In order to reopen safely, we look at three types of data from a disease control standpoint.

- **Epidemiology** asks, can our healthcare and public health systems handle our growth in cases?
- **Healthcare** asks, is our healthcare system overwhelmed?
- **Public health** asks, are we able to contain infections that do occur?

Epidemiology

From a disease control standpoint, we must have few enough cases of COVID-19 to be swiftly contained. This is an important parameter, and our thresholds for phased reopening are set at levels that align with the progression of our epidemic locally—a lower percentage of positive cases out of the total tests and a low incident threshold of new cases per day averaged over the most recent 14 day period.

Where we are today: Crawford County has had a consistently low percent of tests that are positive. However, our rate of positive cases have increased in the last two weeks by 567%. Since 5/1/2020 our daily number of new cases have averaged to one per day. We are currently not seeing a downward trend but feel we are also not in a crisis situation.

Healthcare

A sustained, high testing level is a critical metric that ensures our epidemiology criteria are meaningful. Testing is how we detect active infection, which leads to contact tracing and prevention of further disease transmission. Alongside testing to monitor the course of the epidemic, it is vital that healthcare systems are equipped to manage patient care in the context of a surge caused by COVID-19. To establish that hospitals are operating outside of crisis care, one of our metrics measures facility use, staffing, and critical supplies across Crawford County hospitals. Given that healthcare workers power healthcare systems, we need to ensure evidence of robust testing of healthcare workers, and sustained low rates of positivity among healthcare workers.

Where we are today: Hospital capacity and testing availability for health care workers are both good in Crawford County. Hospitals have prepared to implement crisis care, but we have avoided a significant surge of COVID-19 in our healthcare settings. Additionally, the number of new cases among health care workers has remained low.

Public Health

The third aspect of disease containment is our ability to identify and isolate individuals with positive diagnoses in order to prevent further spread. Through rapid contact tracing, we can identify and notify contacts who have been exposed. Through education and isolation assistance, we can help keep people who test positive and their contacts separated from others for the duration of the infectious period, and lower the risk of spread in the community. Monitoring community spread—the percentage of cases with an unidentified risk factor—is how we can gain a sense of the scale of undetected disease spread.

Where we are today: The vast majority of individuals who have a positive diagnosis are contacted by public health staff the same day of their positive test result gets reported however, we still see delays between the time a lab test is done and the time the result is ready and reported to public health. Once cases and their contacts are contacted and informed of isolation/quarantine procedures, we have the ability to offer various forms of support to those who need it. All of these contact tracing and isolation/ quarantine procedures are most effective when we are able to identify potential routes of disease transmission. This is where we need to make the most progress. We're still seeing cases with no known route of disease transmission, which means there are likely people unknowingly spreading the virus in the community.

Process Measures

In addition to the publicly facing eight metrics, we'll be monitoring process measures when things aren't going well to help us understand where there may be a gap in the system. These process measures look at transmission dynamics (the "R" value of our epidemic), lab result reporting timeliness, outbreak monitoring within priority populations, capacity for supporting isolation/ quarantine, and contact attempts of both cases and contacts.

Crawford-Moving Forward Metric Status

Active monitoring of real-time data-based metrics are critical. If metrics are not being met, mitigation strategies may be needed at the county level, or an even smaller scale (municipality, facility, or business) to address an identified hotspot.
The metrics below help guide our decision to safely reopen Crawford County.

A **RED** dot indicates that we have made limited progress toward the benchmark,
the **YELLOW** dot means we are making progress toward meeting the benchmark and
the **GREEN** dot means we have met the benchmark.
See pg. 8 for more details about how we use these metrics to determine when we move to a different phase.
Go to https://www.crawfordcountywi.org/health-home.html for the most current metrics.

Category		Measure	Threshold Metrics	Crawford County (May 18, 2020)
Epidemiology	Cases	Below a threshold of 5% for positive tests as a percent of total tests averaged across most recent 14 day period	**Green:** Below 5% positivity **Yellow:** 5-10% positivity **Red:** Above 10% positivity	4.2%
	Cases	Below a low incidence threshold of 0.5 new cases per day averaged over most recent 14 day period	**Green:** Below 0.5 cases per day **Yellow:** 0.5 to 2 cases per day **Red:** Greater than 2 cases per day	1.1 new case average
Healthcare	Testing	Testing supplies and staff facilitate adequate testing for disease control and surveillance with a goal of 154 tests per 100,000 (this is 34 tests per day for Crawford County) averaged over the most recent 14 day period	**Green:** Greater than 34 tests per day **Yellow:** 20-33 tests per day **Red:** Below 20 tests per day	Average 27 test/day

Healthcare (cont.)

	Hospital capacity	Treat all patients without crisis care **Healthcare Facility Questions:** **Facility use status:** the facility is damaged/ unsafe or non-patient care areas are being used by the facility for patient care **Staffing status:** trained staff are unavailable or unable to adequately care for the volume of patients even with extension techniques **Critical supply status:** critical supplies are lacking, resulting in reallocation of life-sustaining resources and/or other extreme operating conditions	**Green:** All health care facilities answer "no" to all 3 questions **Yellow:** One healthcare facility answers "yes" to one of the 3 questions **Red:** More than one facility answers "yes" to any of the questions and/or one facility answer "yes" to more than one of the questions	
	Hospital capacity	Stable or decreasing numbers of infected health care workers	**Green:** No significant increase in weekly healthcare worker infections in the most recent 14 days **Yellow:** One healthcare facilities report 2 or more workers that are positive cases in the most recent 14 days **Red:** Two or more healthcare facilities report 2 or more workers that are positive cases in the most recent 14 days	
Public Health	Lab reporting timeliness and contact tracing	All positive cases can be reported and contacted quickly to facilitate rapid isolation and quarantine for disease control	**Green:** More than 85% of all new cases are contacted within 48 hours of their test collection **Yellow:** 70-85% of all new cases are contacted within 48 hours of their test collection **Red:** Fewer than 70% of all new cases are contacted within 48 hours of their test collection	81%
	Community spread	Proportion of contacted COVID-19 cases who don't know where they could have gotten COVID-19 in most recent 14 day period	**Green:** Fewer than 20% of cases don't know where they could have gotten COVID-19 **Yellow:** 20-30% cases don't know where they could have gotten COVID-19 **Red:** More than 30% cases don't know where they could have gotten COVID-19	19%

Why a Phased Approach to Reopening is Important

The science of COVID-19 transmission is ever evolving. Research has shown that coughing and sneezing from a person with COVID-19 are highly effective routes of disease transmission. Emerging research suggests speech droplets generated by asymptomatic carriers are also a potentially important mode of disease transmission.

It is this science that serves as the basis of our phased approach to reopening. Crowded restaurants, open work spaces, indoor and contact sports, facilities where distancing is a challenge, activities with a lot of deep breathing (such as singing)—these areas and activities are inherently more prone to transmission of COVID-19, particularly when a person who has COVID-19 doesn't know it.

This is why our phased approach starts carefully to minimize risk of exposure to the greatest extent possible while supporting ways to get back to business. With Safer at Home, many of the potential places or activities for transmission to occur weren't happening. As we re-introduce those activities, we must ensure we are still able to identify and contain the number of cases that are likely to result from more people being exposed in more settings.

While we hope that we do not see numbers of cases or deaths increase to the point where we need to move into a more restrictive phase, because so much is unknown with this virus, it is a possibility that we may have to face. That decision, if necessary, will be made using data and science, with the best interest of our community's health in mind, while understanding the economic and emotional impact of moving back and forth.

The following data metrics will be assessed to move through reopening phases:

- Assess at 14 days after implementation of Phase 1.
  - If more than half of metrics are green and epidemiology criteria are not red, move to Phase 2.
  - If criteria are not met after 14 days, assess regularly until criteria are met.
- Assess at 14 days after implementation of Phase 2.
  - If more than half the metrics in Crawford County are green, move to Phase 3.
  - If criteria are not met after 14 days, assess regularly until criteria are met.
- Continue in Phase 3 until widespread protections are available.

Phased Reopening Plan

WE ARE HERE
8/13/20

	SAFER AT HOME	PREPARE FOR SAFE REOPEN	PHASE ONE IMPLEMENT	PHASE TWO MAINTAIN	PHASE THREE SUSTAIN	PHASE FOUR NEW NORMAL
Population level disease transmission mitigation	Most Restrictive	Minimal loosening of restrictions to allow businesses to prepare for phased reopening	More Restrictive ----------Less Restrictive If localized outbreaks occur, enact all measures possible to stay within current phase. If metrics are not maintained, may have to consider returning to a previous phase.			To be determined
Data metrics to move through phases			Assess at 14 days after implementation of Phase 1. If more than half are green and Epi criteria are not red, move to Phase 2. If criteria are not met after 14 days, assess regularly until criteria are met.	Assess at 14 days after implementation of Phase 2. If more than half the metrics in Crawford County are green, and no metrics in Crawford County are red, move to Phase 3. If criteria are not met after 14 days, assess regularly until criteria are met.	Continue in this phase until widespread protections are available.	
Public Health requirements for all phases and sectors	**Public Health guidance for all phases and employers** • Written and implemented hygiene policy and procedure that includes: ○ Ensuring employees who have a fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to work. ○ Hand washing expectations and supplies available for staff ○ A description of proper cough and sneeze etiquette • Written and implemented cleaning policy and procedure that includes: ○ Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces multiple times a day ○ Frequently wiping down any shared equipment, such as work spaces, credit card machines, lunch room items, carts, baskets, etc. ○ Cleaning common areas and equipment between use or shift changes. ○ Protocols to clean and disinfect in the event of a positive COVID-19 case • Written and implemented protective measure policy and procedure that includes: ○ Ensuring people are at least 6 feet from others whenever possible. ○ Ensuring employees are provided with and wear face coverings when unable to maintain at least 6 feet of distance from people. ▪ If a transparent partition is in place, a face covering is recommended, but not required. • Documented staff receipt, acknowledgement, or training on the policies					

Resources:
WEDC: https://wedc.org/reopen-guidelines/
DHS: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/protect.htm
CDC: https://cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html

	WI SAFER AT HOME ORDER Ended 5/13/20	PREPARE FOR SAFE REOPEN Crawford County Health Officer Statement 5/14/20	PHASE ONE All activities in Phase 1 that cannot maintain physical distancing should take place only with household members. 5/18/20	PHASE TWO	PHASE THREE
	Must also follow Public Health Guidance (pg. 9) in all phases, in addition to sector specific				
Long-Term Congregate Living					
Long-term care facilities	No outside visitors No group activities or communal dining	No outside visitors No group activities or communal dining	No outside visitors No group activities or communal dining	Visitors for compassionate care Screen visitors for symptoms of illness No group activities or communal dining	Screen visitors for symptoms of illness
Public and Private Schools, Childcare Centers, Summer Programs, and Institutions of Higher Education					
K-12 schools	No	No in-person instruction Minimum basic operations and activities approved by Crawford County PublicHealth	No in-person instruction Minimum basic operations and activities approved by Crawford County Public Health	No interaction between groups/classrooms Groups cannot be larger than 15	Yes
			Expecting more guidelines from DHS and DPI soon.		
Child care settings	No more than 10 staff and fewer than 50 children present	No more than 50 children present per license	No interaction between groups/classrooms Groups cannot be larger than 15	No interaction between groups/classrooms Groups cannot be larger than 15	Yes
Businesses, Workplaces, and Faith & Spiritual Communities					
Office spaces	Yes, with exemptions	Yes, with exemptions	25% capacity	50% capacity	Yes

All sectors should follow Public Health Guidance (pg. 9) in all phases, in addition to sector specific requirements.

Restaurants, bars, & food trucks	Take-out and delivery service	Take-out and delivery service Minimum basic operations to prepare for safe reopen	**25% indoor seating capacity** Space tables at least six feet apart Limit each table to a maximum of six guest. Outdoor seating with proper distancing No self-service or customer self-dispensing	**50% indoor seating capacity** Space tables at least six feet apart. Limit each table to a maximum of six guest Outdoor seating with proper distancing No self-service or customer self-dispensing	**75% indoor seating capacity** Space tables at least six feet apart. Outdoor seating with proper distancing No self-serve or customer self-dispensing
			Take-out and delivery service available through all phases		
Essential infrastructure businesses	Yes	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance
Stores that sell groceries and medicine	No dine-in No self-service No customer self-dispensing	No dine-in No self-service No customer self-dispensing	Dine-in capacity 25% No self-service No customer self-dispensing	Dine-in capacity 50% No self-service No customer self-dispensing	Dine-in capacity 75% No self-service
Retail establishments	Mail, delivery, and curbside pick-up operations Stores with outside-facing entrances allowed up to 5 patrons Essential business operating with restrictions	Mail, delivery, and curbside pick-up operations Stores with outside-facing entrances allowed up to 5 patrons Essential business operating with restrictions	25% capacity No sampling of goods (example: food or make-up)	50% capacity No sampling of goods (example: food or make-up)	75% capacity No sampling of goods (example: food or make-up)
			Mail, delivery, and curbside pick-up operations continue through all phases		

Gym/recreational facilities	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for safe reopen	25% capacity Basketball courts and other areas where contact sports occur should be closed Saunas and steam rooms closed	50% capacity Basketball courts and other areas where contact sports occur should be closed Saunas and steam rooms closed	75% capacity
Salons, tattoo parlors, and spas	No	Minimum basic operations to prepare for safe reopen	Services provided by appointment only No client should remain in a waiting area prior to receiving services Employees wear face coverings or mask at all times Customers wear face coverings to the extent possible	Services provided by appointment only No client should remain in a waiting area prior to receiving services Employees wear face coverings or mask at all times Customers wear face coverings to the extent possible	Employees wear face coverings or mask at all times Customers wear face coverings to the extent possible
Lodging (Such as hotels, motels, short-term rentals, campgrounds)	Yes	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance	Continue to follow the Public Health and WEDC Guidance
Community centers & visitor/info centers	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for safe reopen	25% capacity	50% capacity	75% capacity
Car washes	Automatic and self-service car washes only	Automatic and self-service car washes only	Automatic and self-service car washes Full service and express detail, exterior only	Yes	Yes
Cleaning services	No, residential Yes, commercial	No, residential Yes, commercial	Yes	Yes	Yes

All sectors should follow Public Health Guidance (pg. 9) in all phases, in addition to sector specific requirements.

Exterior home work (aesthetic or optional)	Yes, if it can be done by one person	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Interior home work (aesthetic or optional)	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for reopening	Yes	Yes	Yes
Indoor shopping malls	Stores with outside-facing entrances allowed up to 5 patrons Curbside allowed	Stores with outside-facing entrances allowed up to 5 patrons Curbside allowed Minimum basic operations to prepare for reopening allowed	25% capacity	50% capacity	75% capacity
Faith-based services, religious entities, and places of worship (indoor)	Allowed with less than 10 people per room	25% seating capacity	25% seating capacity	50% seating capacity	75% seating capacity
Recreational Activities					
Low contact recreational activities (Such as walking, bike riding, tennis, disc golf, pickle ball, dog parks)		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
High risk recreational activities (Such as contact or team sports and summer camps)	No	Yes, with household members	Yes, with household members	Yes, with household members	Yes, with household members
		Currently the DHS & CDC recommends no team sports this summer.			
		More information can be found: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/community.htm			
Outdoor playgrounds & splash pads	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Indoor playgrounds, funplexes, trampoline parks, miniature golf, and skating rinks	No	No	No	50% capacity	75% capacity
Golf courses	Yes, with restrictions	Yes, with restrictions	Yes, with restrictions	Yes	Yes

All sectors should follow Public Health Guidance (pg. 9) in all phases, in addition to sector specific requirements.

Outdoor recreational rentals	Yes, with restrictions	Yes, with restrictions	Yes, with restrictions	Yes	Yes
Licensed swimming pools	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for reopening	25% capacity	50% capacity	75% capacity
Indoor places of arts and culture (Such as movie & other theaters, social clubs, museums)	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for reopening	25% capacity Minimum 6 feet spacing between groups	50% capacity	75% capacity
Outdoor places of amusement and activity (Such as amusement parks, zoos, miniature golf)	No	No Minimum basic operations to prepare for reopening allowed	25% capacity	50% capacity	75% capacity
Outdoor Entertainment (Such as festivals, carnivals, fairs, concerts)	No	No	25 people maximum (not including employees)	100 people maximum (not including employees)	250 people maximum (not including employees)
Bowling Alleys	No	No	25% capacity Customers must bring their own equipment	50% capacity	75% capacity
Mass or Social Gatherings					
Indoor mass gatherings in public venues & private property	No	No	10 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing	50 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing	100 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing
Outdoor mass gatherings in public venues & private property	No	No	25 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing	100 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing	250 people maximum (not including employees) Must maintain physical distancing

All sectors should follow Public Health Guidance (pg. 9) in all phases, in addition to sector specific requirements.