

Transcript

City of River Falls Mayor Dan Toland's weekly video update
Nov. 10, 2020

Hi, Mayor Dan here.

Well, looks like winter has decided to make an appearance after all. We'll see dropping temperatures this week with snow and rain in the forecast. Remember to follow the odd/even parking schedule so our crews can safely and cleanly plow our roadways.

Speaking of the season, you probably know by now that River Dazzle has been cancelled for this year. However, the downtown lights will still switch on at 6:30 p.m. the day after Thanksgiving, as usual. Thanks to the Utility and Public Works crews for taking the time to give our Main Street some holiday pizzazz. I look forward to a grand River Dazzle celebration next year.

As you think about your Thanksgiving plans, remember to keep your circle small. That means trying to keep your invitation list to a bare minimum. Enjoying the holiday with household members is best; however, small groups that can practice social distancing and wear masks – as much as feasible – are better than larger groups. Especially if people are gathering in small, indoor areas. Please talk with your family and plan for safety. Hopefully, next year, we can go back to inviting the in-laws and distant cousins. Visit the [City's COVID-19 web page](#) for tips to keeping your Thanksgiving celebrations safe this year.

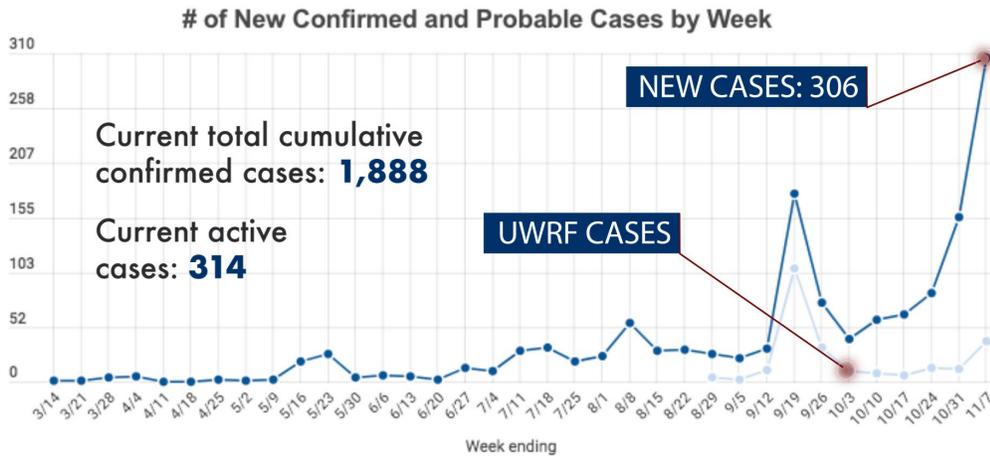
Before I talk about COVID-19 case numbers, I want to say a couple of words about the Election. First, I want to once again recognize our City staff and poll workers who planned and executed the Nov. 3 election so carefully – it really did go off without a flaw. Everyone did what they were supposed to do – and did it very well. I know that you will join me in appreciating the efficiency and flexibility of City Clerk Amy White and her elections team.

Second, I want to thank all of you for honoring the voting process and for being civil to one another. And, for wearing masks and practicing social distancing. This helped keep all of us safe during a very stressful election.

Let's talk about the COVID-19 cases numbers now ...

I want to let you know that Pierce County has begun to use weekly cases number to show the progression of the virus. This graph shows confirmed and probable cases by week. You can see that there was an increase of 306 new cases last week, the most since March. As of Sunday, the total cumulative number of confirmed cases in the county was 1,888. The lighter blue line indicates UWRF cases.

Local COVID-19 Statistics: Pierce County



In this next slide, you can see that St. Croix County has 1,469 active cases, an increase of 360 since last week. The cumulative case total is now 2,822.

St. Croix County	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Change
Cumulative confirmed cases	2,256	2,822	+566
Active cases	1,109	1,469	+360
Recovered cases	1,135	1,337	+202
Negative cases	22,024	23,375	+1,351
Deaths	12	16	+4
Activity level	High	High	No change

Slide three shows us that there are 59,088 active cases in Wisconsin, an increase of 10,722 cases since last week.

State of Wisconsin	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Change
Cumulative confirmed cases	232,296	271,770	+39,474
Active cases	48,366	59,088	+10,722
Recovered cases	181,845	210,318	+28,473
Negative cases	1,846,618	1,926,518	+79,900
Deaths	2,050	2,329	+279

Like other states across the US, Wisconsin is experiencing a rapid increase in cases, which are beginning to overwhelm hospital systems in some areas.

Several municipalities have begun to issue masking and other mandates. In River Falls, we continue to follow the lead of our county public health officers. However, that does not mean that we should let down our guard. In fact, we need to be even more vigilant especially as we head into winter and find ourselves gathering indoors. I know you've heard this 1,000 times, but this hard time will pass. In the meantime, let's be good to one another and follow the guidelines.

On slide four, you'll see that Pierce County continues to be able to contact new cases within 24 hours. However, they are not able to trace all close contacts within 24 hours.

In fact, the county is no longer able to provide contact tracing for all confirmed cases. So, they have asked the community for help. If you or someone you know has tested positive for the virus, please begin reaching out to your close contacts. You can find more information about how to do that at the [City's COVID-19 website](#).

Testing capacity continues to increase in our area, so be sure and check our website for location updates. In fact, beginning today, UWRF is offering a drive-through testing site on campus for community members. See a link on our website for directions and more information.

Before I go, I want to leave you with some cute pet pictures. First, we have Reggie and Trixie, next is Lillie, and finally there's Oskar.



Please email me a picture of your favorite pet and I will include it in an upcoming video. And

Local/regional	Nov. 2	Nov. 9
Adequate PPE supplies for staff	Yes	Yes
City/regional testing capacity	Yes	Yes
Case contact within 24 hours (Pierce County)	Yes	Yes
Close contact tracing within 24 hours (Pierce County)	No	No

feel free to reach out to me at any time if you have questions or comments on any subject. I want to hear from you. You can find me at dtoland@rfcity.org.

I look forward to hearing from you. Everybody be safe and take care.