

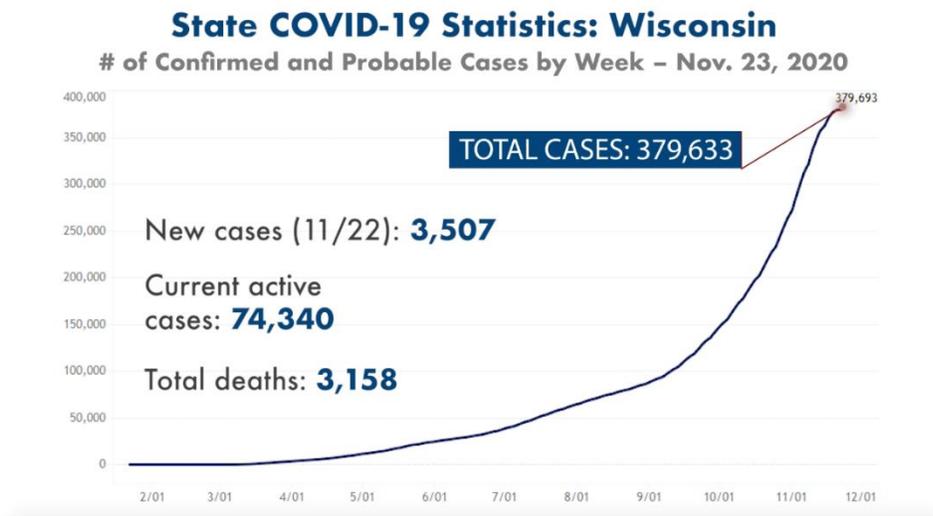
**Transcript**  
**City of River Falls Mayor Dan Toland's weekly video update**  
**Nov. 24, 2020**

Hi, Mayor Dan here.

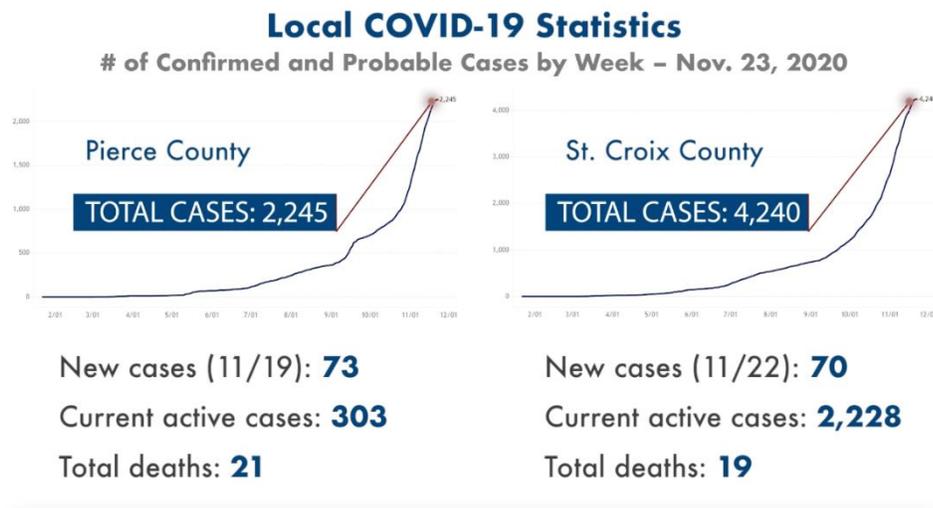
Well it's Thanksgiving week, which means it's also deer hunting season. Congratulations to all of the spouses left at home – please feel free to insert your own cheer or 'amen' here.

It's also been another week of increased activity in COVID-19 cases.

You can see in the first slide that Wisconsin experienced over 3,500 new cases on Sunday for a total of over 379,000 since the pandemic began. Yesterday, total deaths were at 3,158.



The second slide includes case numbers for our two counties. Both counties had about 70 new cases over the weekend. Combined, the counties have reported 40 deaths to date.



The Governor has extended the current masking order for the next two months. In addition, Pierce County has issued an indoor gathering advisory. Links to both the order and advisory are on the website below ([www.rfcity.org/COVID19](http://www.rfcity.org/COVID19))

Remember, that the counties are asking for your help in contact tracing if you or a family member has tested positive for COVID-19. See our website below for how to do this. Also, if you need to get tested, the website below has links to testing sites in our area ([www.rfcity.org/COVID19](http://www.rfcity.org/COVID19)).

As I mentioned last week, I would like to strongly encourage you to limit your activities this week. To be safe, it's important that you spend the break with household members only and practice all your COVID-19 safety guidelines.

Remember to avoid large indoor gatherings where a mask and social distancing cannot be used.

If you plan to go out, keep groups SMALL and LOCAL. Our Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau has a host of upcoming events to get you in the holiday mood. Check them out on the Chamber's "Keep the Cheer Here" webpage. We have the light ceremony downtown; we have fireworks at the high school and we also have Santa making a special trip to our town to drive around the neighborhoods.

I hope that everyone will take some time this week to remember all of their blessings and contemplate all you are thankful for.

I will start ... I am thankful for my loving wife Joni, my family and all of you, a wonderful group of individuals who I know has the best interest of our community at heart. I am thankful for those who are demonstrating their care and respect by taking precautions to help protect our vulnerable neighbors.

I am thankful for my health and that of my family and all of yours. I know it can change at any time, but I trust that our local healthcare professionals will do all they can to make us well again. I am thankful that these professionals come to work every day, trying hard to save lives despite the never-ending stream of patients and the uncertainty and despair they must sometimes feel.

I am thankful for our school district and all their employees who have gone the extra mile for our students. And, I am thankful for the parents and families who have been able and willing to adapt to new schedules and make so many sacrifices.

I am thankful to our nonprofits who are shaking all the trees to get help for community members in need and to those who have donated to worthy causes.

I am thankful for our businesses who continue to keep our economy running, even in the worst of circumstances.

And, I am thankful to be your mayor. Thanks for putting your trust in me. I will continue to do all I can to make our community safe and Know that here is a light at the end of the tunnel ... and that we will get there together!

Now, last but not least, I want to share our pets of the week: First, we have Bailey. Next, are Chewie and Ben. And, finally, Max.



As always, please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. My email address is [dtoland@rfcity.org](mailto:dtoland@rfcity.org).

Until next time, please be vigilant, be kind ... be thankful ... stay healthy and enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving. Go Pack Go