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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAUK COUNTY SEES SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN NEW COVID-19 CASES

Sauk County, WI – Sauk County Public Health (SCPH) announced an alarming rise in new cases of COVID-19 in Sauk County through the first 13 days of July. From July 1-13, there have been 75 new cases of COVID-19 in Sauk County, for a total of 182 cases. That is an average of almost 6 new cases every day during that 13-day period, and more than any 2-month period of this epidemic thus far. “The dramatic increase in people being infected with COVID-19 should be a wake-up call to people who are not practicing social distancing, wearing masks, avoiding gatherings over 50 people, or regularly disinfecting” said Tim Lawther, Sauk County Health Officer. “We can prevent this from getting even worse, but only if residents and visitors take action to avoid getting or spreading COVID. If you don’t want to do it for yourself, do it for those you care about and those who need your help. It is a small sacrifice to protect one another.”

Approximately half of the people infected with COVID in the month of July were infected in the community, NOT by a known case. This further indicates the significant threat of COVID spreading across our county. “We are working with our business community and other partners to reduce the risk of spreading COVID,” said Lawther. “But we should assume that COVID is widespread across the county. So to reduce your risk of catching or spreading it, you should take the precautions we know work to minimize risk and reduce harm. We only get one chance to do this right, and now is the time to step up to protect our family, friends, and fellow citizens.”

People with symptoms should get tested. For a map of current testing sites, please visit the SCPH website: <https://saukpublichealth.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ac82dfb598dd4a84a80e1c43eddf0ff7>.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Residents who test positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by SCPH and should be prepared to isolate at home for at least 10 days.

Those residents who are identified as close contacts to a person with confirmed COVID-19 should expect a call from SCPH and should prepare to be in self-quarantine for 14 days.

Businesses with a positive employee and/or close contacts to a positive case should expect to wait 24 hours and then disinfect the area(s) where the person who tested positive worked, allow that positive case to stay home for at least 10 days, and any close contact to stay home for 14 days.

For more information, please visit the Sauk County Public Health website at <https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth/coronavirus>.

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