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Oak Creek Health Officer Announces Expiration of Local Health Order #1; Businesses to Re-Open

Oak Creek, Wisconsin: Following the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision of May 13, 2020, which effectively struck down Wisconsin's Safer at Home Order, suburban Milwaukee County communities issued their own Local Order #1. The City of Oak Creek was among those suburban communities that issued Local Order #1, which was a one-week order set to expire at 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, May 21, 2020.

"The Order #1 was an effective tool to make for a more orderly transition from the Wisconsin Supreme Court decision to the safe re-opening of our community businesses," stated Darcy DuBois, Oak Creek Community Health Officer. "We share the goal of reopening as safely and quickly as possible while instilling confidence in businesses, employees, and residents that it is safe to participate in public life. We took the last week to communicate with our businesses so they could prepare for reopening as early as Friday, May 22. In discussions with the Oak Creek Mayor and Common Council, we are ready to open, albeit cautiously, and the current public health metrics support that decision."

With the Oak Creek Order expiring after Thursday, May 21, residents and visitors will again be able to patronize local businesses in the City. The Health Department will be issuing guidance to local businesses and gathering places on Physical Distancing, Protective Measures, Safe Business Practices, and recommended capacity limits, but citizens are also reminded to:

- Stay home if they do not feel well or exhibit flu-like symptoms;
- Practice physical distancing;
- Wash hands often;
- Cover coughs;
- Wear a cloth face covering if possible;
- Strictly adhere to the protective measures and safe business practices advertised by the local businesses;
- Continue to limit gathering sizes; and
- Remember that COVID-19 is still very present in our community.

"Given the caliber of the people owning and operating our community businesses, both large and small, we know the proper steps will be taken to re-engage in economic activity while protecting the public," added Mayor Dan Bukiewicz. "It has been a long couple of months for everyone, but it's time to get back to working, producing, and socializing as long those activities are done in a safe manner."

For more information on the public health guidance to be distributed by the Oak Creek Health Department, residents and businesses are encouraged to visit the City's website at www.oakcreekwi.org.

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