

From: Ashland Chamber of Commerce <info@visitashland.net>
Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 5:20 PM
To: officemgr@visitashland.com
Subject: Business Update for 5-01-2020



COVID-19 Update 5-01-2020

Keep checking our Facebook page to see the Car Run today...We will get it up on our page as soon as we get it! What fun everyone had and we absolutely missed the rain!! Thanks to everyone for participating and thanks so much to Ed Monroe for the Drone and Video and Pictures!! Thank you to the Police Department, Ashland Fire Department, Tomlinson's, and Gary Kabasa's Fire truck for helping us stay safe!!

I hope everyone has an opportunity to get outside this weekend and enjoy some nice weather!

Every day we get closer to opening!! Thanks so much to Mari and her team at the NWWIB for letting us use their technology and for them hosting some excellent webinars on how to use social media. This Tuesday is the third one and it is how to use TIK TOK, a rather new way of making videos etc. etc. Today we had a webinar with our retailers to field questions and answers for preparing to open!! They all just want to get back to their stores and see their customers!! Small businesses are truly the backbone of our country and we all are busy preparing in the upcoming weeks to get back to business!! It's construction season, and Brant Kucera, the City of Ashland Administrator tells

us they have a lot of bids due for projects throughout the city including Vaughn Avenue and a host of other projects!! It's even more exciting this week to hear the hospital is opening up with treatments and some surgery's and they are aching ... Get it ACHING to get back to work to help folks so that these minor health problems don't turn into major health problems. I love to see our restaurants so creative from selling drink mixes at the Stagecoach to playing Bingo at Pizza Pub and the Burger Barn's creative Family meals and everyone in between. They are so thankful for the local market and for all of the businesses that are buying lunches for your people and spending dollars with them in these dark times! And many many Facebook live events from Solstice, Superior Floral to Home Expressions and it's always time for Chocolate at Gabriele's and POPCORN!! oh my goodness – Bay Theater .. Ryan that was genius to sell popcorn!! Please continue to be safe, but be nice to each other, and help each other, pay it forward when you can, and we'll get through this!!

Many of you have asked to see the WMC Business model for re-opening. Here is a link to the model. Today on the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation's weekly webinar, Dr. Raymond, CEO of the Wisconsin School of Medicine was also very complimentary of this format as well.

<https://www.wmc.org/wp-content/uploads/04.24.20-WMC-B2B-Plan-Presentation-FINAL.pdf>

Who hoo some things are opening!!

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Reopens Boat Landings and Trails Rhinelander, WI – APRIL 30, 2020 -- The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest will be lifting the closure order for boat landings (except for some within closed campgrounds) today. In addition, both motorized and non-motorized trails on the National Forest will be open May 8 or when local conditions allow for opening. Please check the website or with your local county to see what trails are open before heading out.

“The Forest takes the safety of our personnel, contractors, volunteers, and visitors seriously, and we also understand that outdoor activities like fishing and hiking are encouraged during this difficult time. It is important to stay close to home and limit travel when pursuing places to recreate,” said Paul

Strong, Forest Supervisor on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

While the boat landings will be available for use, they will not be maintained, nor will any associated facilities be available such as restrooms or garbage receptacles until further notice. Trails will be open however, without restrooms or garbage receptacles at trailheads.

“The Forest is working with trail partners to address eminent hazards on the trails prior to opening,” said Strong. “The Forest and partners will be doing required maintenance only at this time while we work through the risks of field work”

The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest will continue to coordinate its COVID-19 response in alignment with all federal, state and local guidance. The Forest will be considering the risks associated with opening additional recreation sites, such as campgrounds, which remain closed. In addition, camping, campfires and groups of more than 10 people are prohibited on the National Forest until further notice. Please visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/cnnf and click on Alerts and Notices to view the closure orders outlining what is closed and prohibited.

When visiting your public lands, it is important to be aware of current forest limitations. To protect public health and safety, all visitors to the Forest are encouraged to:

- Avoid visiting the forest if you are sick and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Follow CDC guidance on personal hygiene and social distancing before and during your visit to the Forest.
- Take your trash with you when you leave.
- Please make arrangements to use the restroom before or after your visit to the forest. Unmanaged waste creates a health hazard for our employees and for other visitors.
- If an area is crowded, please search for a less occupied location. Also consider avoiding the Forest during high-use periods.

“The public is asked to do their part to ensure the safety of ourselves, our families and our communities,” said Strong. “Please remember to take your

trash with you, practice leave no trace principles and social distancing when recreating on your National Forest.”

This is good news too!!

Gov. Tony Evers announced on Friday that the National Guard had teams operating specimen collection sites in different parts of Wisconsin. Currently, Milwaukee County has two sites setup at local health clinics, while Brown County and Buffalo County have sites setup for community-based testing. The testing sites are meant to increase Wisconsin's testing capacity as it responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As of April 30, Wisconsin National Guard teams had collected more than 5,000 specimens statewide.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Also...

Walmart in Ashland will be opening their free ONLINE GROCERY PICKUP service starting Wednesday 5/6. Download the Walmart app and text GROCERY to 474747 to receive \$10 off your first order.

Churches and how they are doing services.

- **Chequamegon Community Church:** 715-373-2939. Parking lot services on Sundays. Please social distance.
- **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church:** 715-682-4510 or goodshepherdashland@gmail.com No worship in person until further notice. Two at-home worship options are available each Sunday via email.
- **Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church:** 715-682-7620. Online Services Via [Facebook](#) also broadcasting the Sunday Mass on Holy Family Radio, WWMD-LP, 95.3 FM, our local low power 24/7 Catholic FM radio station. The tape-delayed Mass is aired at 9am on Sunday mornings.

- **Presbyterian Congregational Church:** 715-682-3093. [For service information](https://www.facebook.com/groups/397705497089505/) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/397705497089505/>
 - **Salem Baptist Church** 715-682-3934. Online services via [Facebook](#) Easter Sunday - Join us for our Sunday Morning Virtual Church Service worshipping, and praying with believers in our community and around the world. Live video will begin about 10am CST and be available for replay shortly after. Feel free to invite anyone and everyone to join us all are welcome!
 - **Saron Lutheran Church:** 715-682-2376. Online Via [Facebook](#) Also on the radio at 7am on WATW 1400 AM and WJJH 101.3 FM.
 - **Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church:** 715-682-3293
 - **Zion Lutheran Church-LCMS,** 715-682-6075. Online Services via [Facebook](#)
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Small Businesses... Retail, Food & Beverage, Lodging.... etc. etc.

Look at these webinars coming up with NWWIB Mari Kay-Nabozny's Team!! The staff from the Northwest Workforce Investment Board otherwise known as NWWIB is working with us to hold a series of FUN ways you can learn and improve your social media presence as a retailer, restaurant or other customer-driven business. This is the time to hone in on those social media skills and if you aren't sure of how they work, this is a great time to learn. We are offering a series of 3 modules for our EPC group and other small businesses, we have 1 left.

Every Tuesday we will offer another valuable lesson on how to use social media to engage your socially distant customers!!

- May 5: Social Media Engagement for Socially Distanced Customers - TikTok
10-11am [REGISTER HERE](#) for Week 3: TikTok
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BUSINESS UPDATE

For a list of what businesses are open and how they are doing business go to <https://www.visitashland.com/events/latest-news-and-updates/>

As a business please continue to email information regarding your business to info@visitashland.com as we will continue to update the website and Facebook pages.

SUPPORT YOUR SMALL BUSINESSES

Check out our **One Stop Gift Certificate Shop** on our E-commerce page at visitashland.com. Many people are home from work and receiving a paycheck, and very concerned about our small businesses that have been severely impacted. Providing a one-stop shop for folks to show support of our small businesses and purchase gift cards will hopefully help some of you in this crisis situation. These are certificates for the individual businesses. This is a work in progress so please be patient and keep checking back. If you don't see your business and would like to be listed on our Chamber Store site, please email info@visitashland.com. <https://shop.visitashland.net/15-chamber-store>

CHAMBER HOURS

In an effort to limit our people to people contact, the Ashland Area Chamber of Commerce will close the office. We want to assure you that one of our highest priorities is the health of our staff, customers and the well-being of our community regarding COVID -19. If you need anything, please call our office; we have remote access to the phone lines 715-682-2500. If you need chamber dollars reimbursed, please email Mary at info@visitashland.com and we can take care of that as well.

Other Links

- [Travel Advisory for Ashland County](#)
 - [Travel Advisory for Bayfield County](#)
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