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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 26, 2021

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Hurley, WI - Iron County Public Health is reporting **539** positive COVID Iron County residents, **117** probable, (656 total), **597** recovered, **42** ever hospitalized, **2474** negative test results and **39** deaths.

COVID-19 vaccine is being distributed to Wisconsin residents in a phased approach. It is important to remember that vaccine supply is limited, and vaccinations are targeted to specific groups of people with a higher risk for COVID-19 infection. It will take time to reach all people within each priority population.

Beginning March 1, new groups will be eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. The newly eligible groups include the following in priority order:

- Education and child care staff
- Individuals enrolled in Medicaid long-term care programs
- Some public-facing essential workers
- Non-frontline essential health care personnel
- Facility staff and residents in congregate living settings.

While these groups are eligible on March 1, vaccine providers should prioritize previously eligible groups before newer groups. This means individuals in newly eligible groups should not expect to get the vaccine right away. It will take time to get to everyone in priority order.

- The Iron County Health Department is nearing the bottom of residents over 65 list. Please be sure to call the health department at 715-561-2191 if you are eligible and have not yet received the vaccine.
- On Monday March 1st the health department will start taking calls from staff in regulated child care; facility and staff in higher education settings who have direct student contact; individuals who are enrolled in long-term care programs; employees in utility and communications infrastructure, workers that ensure electric, natural gas, steam, water, wastewater, internet and telecommunications services; cyber security workers; support roles such as cleaning, HVAC, and refrigeration critical to health system function; and food supply chain workers which includes:

- Agricultural production workers, such as farm owners and other farm employees.
- Critical workers who provide on-site support to multiple agricultural operations, such as livestock breeding and insemination providers, farm labor contractors, crop support providers, and livestock veterinarians.
- Food production workers, such as dairy plant employees, fruit and vegetable processing plant employees, and animal slaughtering and processing employees.
- Retail food workers, such as employees at grocery stores, convenience stores, and gas stations that also sell groceries.
- Hunger relief personnel, including people involved in charitable food distribution, community food and housing providers, social services employees who are involved in food distribution, and emergency relief workers.

Visit the Iron County Health Department website for updates and alerts.

www.ironcountypublichealth.org

www.facebook.com/ironcountyhealthdepartment

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/cases-map.htm>