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WISCONSIN'S SAFER AT HOME ORDER TO DELAY SOME CAMPGROUNDS' OPENING IN APRIL

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Dear Campers:

There's an old saying that goes "If you don't have your health, you've got nothing." That is true. The health and safety of our families and communities is priceless and non-negotiable. That's why it is important to follow the Order issued by the State of Wisconsin yesterday that directs us all to stay home for the next month to blunt the spread of the Novel Coronavirus. I'm writing to address the impact of the Order on your camping experience in 2020.

1. The Order as currently issued means campgrounds cannot open for the regular season before April 24, the day the order expires. Since most campgrounds open around April 15, that short delay seems a small adjustment to keep our campers healthy and safe.
2. The Order does allow for property maintenance and repair activities. Campgrounds will continue to work to prepare for the upcoming season. If it is practical for you to travel to the campground to prepare your unit without staying overnight, you can. We can't let people stay overnight for recreational camping without violating the Order.
3. If you do come to the campground to prepare the site and your camper, you'll need to follow social distance protocol – stay at least 6 feet away from others; no gatherings; and, follow all guidelines the campground will have in place to assure that bathrooms and other shared spaces are kept sanitized.
4. During a visit before the season, understand that the campground's personnel will not be able to help you and the store and office will be closed from in-person contact.

As of now, no one knows whether the Order will be extended past April 24. The Wisconsin Association of Campground Owners is working with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to work out conditions under which camping will happen in 2020. We are optimistic we can make that happen. We're hoping we can extend our season into fall to provide you with

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a great experience. But we are also realistic and will not force the issue. We will make the right call for the health and safety of our campers and our employees. Remember that campground owners and managers live at their campgrounds. Your safety is our safety. We're in the memory business – making happy memories. We'll keep you updated as events unfold.

In the interim, please watch www.wisconsincampgrounds.com or the website or Facebook page of your campground for more information. That's the best source of information. We hope all our campers and their families remain safe and healthy.

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