OPENING UP WISCONSIN WITH THE
Badger Bounce Back

Safer at Home is saving lives. We recognize this has been very challenging and we want to get Wisconsin moving again and get folks back to work. We are fighting an unprecedented global pandemic and we are working to open Wisconsin as soon as we can and in the safest way possible. To turn the dial and begin to re-open our state, we need a plan. Our plan is the Badger Bounce Back.

Wisconsin’s Plan: The Badger Bounce Back
Badger Bounce Back is Wisconsin’s plan to decrease COVID-19 cases and deaths to a low level and increase capacity in our health care system so that a phased reopening of businesses is possible. And that means people can get back to work.

Moving from Safer at Home to the Badger Bounce Back
In order to turn the dial on Safer at Home and supercharge the Badger Bounce Back, we must:

None of these steps is possible without the others. Positive lab tests require timely contact tracing to be sure people quarantine when ill. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is required to conduct lab tests and to protect health care workers. Tracking the spread of the disease is required to understand our health care needs. We want to take steps forward, and we will work diligently and as quickly as possible. At the same time, if one part of this plan takes a fall, every part takes a step back.

The Badger Bounce Back: Moving from Boxing in all Wisconsinites to Boxing in COVID-19
It is now time to move from our initial response to COVID-19, which has been to keep all Wisconsinites at home to prevent spreading this disease. Once we reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and meet the Badger Bounce Back criteria, we can begin to allow people to interact, and more importantly get Wisconsinites back to work. But once we have more flexibility to interact more and get back to work, we will need to aggressively test people for COVID-19, properly isolate people who test positive and quarantine their close contacts. The shift we are making is from “boxing in” all the people to “boxing in” the virus.
The Badger Bounce Back is based on the federal guidelines for Opening Up America Again. Our plan starts with transparency, which we have been committed to from the very beginning. It also includes criteria for a reduction in cases and in symptoms reported over an extended period of time. In addition to the need for these downward trajectories, hospitals will need to have the capacity to treat patients without relying on alternative crisis care as well as have a robust testing program in place for health care workers.

**Boxing in COVID-19 So We Can Re-Open Wisconsin**

It is now time to move from our initial response to COVID-19, which has been to keep all Wisconsinites at home to prevent spreading this disease. Once we reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and meet the Badger Bounce Back criteria, we can begin to allow people to interact, and more importantly get Wisconsinites back to work.

1. Symptoms
   Over the course of 14-days we consistently see fewer and fewer people reporting flu-like illnesses and COVID-like cases. This is called a downward trajectory.

2. Cases
   Over the course of 14 days we consistently see fewer and fewer positive cases of COVID-19 as a percentage of total tests.

3. Health Care System
   Our hospitals can treat all patients without crisis care and there are robust testing programs in place for at-risk health care workers, with decreasing numbers of infected health care workers.

4. Testing
   Every Wisconsin resident who has symptoms of COVID-19 will be able to get a lab test. Results will be reported to the patient and public health within 48 hours of collection.

5. Contact Tracing
   Testing without contact tracing will not result in controlling the spread of the virus. Every Wisconsin resident who tests positive for COVID-19 is interviewed within 24 hours of test results and their contacts are interviewed within 48 hours of test results.

6. Protective Equipment
   All health care and public safety entities will need to have adequate PPE and supplies to conduct COVID-19 testing, patient care, and public safety work.

**The Badger Bounce Back is Essential to Getting Wisconsin Back to Work**

Turning the dial through the Badger Bounce Back will get our state moving again and get people back to work. More importantly it will allow us to stay open once we re-open. By using science to inform the steps we need to take to safely turn the dial, we will be able to re-open while preventing a second wave of COVID-19.

We know all Wisconsinites have had to make enormous sacrifices to slow the spread of COVID-19, but badgers don’t back down. Badgers bounce back.