Urgent News Release #1

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EXTREME HEAT WARNINGS CONTINUE, COOLING CENTERS AVAILABLE

Richland Center, WI: The National Weather Service continues to forecast a dangerous heat wave this entire week. Expect temperatures to generally climb into the 95 to 105 degree range during the afternoon and early evening hours through Friday. Low temperatures will be in the 70s, offering little relief from the heat. Heat indices will range from 100 to 115 degrees. Excessive Heat Warnings are in effect for the entire area, and could lead to a heightened risk of heat-related illness, especially for those who are sensitive to heat.

Richland County Emergency Management will open Conference Room 2 of the Richland County Courthouse located at 181 West Seminary Street in Richland Center on Wednesday, July 4th from 10am to 4pm for those individuals needing water or air conditioning during the observed holiday. Conference Room 2 will also be open from 8 am to 5 pm today, Thursday and Friday.

Two other public facilities will be open this week for people needing to cool off. The Brewer Public Library located at 325 N. Central Avenue in Richland Center will be open from 10am to 8pm today, closed Wednesday, open from 10am to 8pm on Thursday,

10am to 5pm Friday, and 10am to 2pm on Saturday. The Richland Community/Senior Center located at 1050 North Orange Street in Richland Center is open from 7am to 5pm Monday through Friday, but will be closed on Wednesday in observance of the 4th of July holiday. Officials will monitor the use of cooling centers and the weather to determine the continued need for cooling centers into next week.

Richland County Public Health is advising individuals to drink plenty of water and stay in air conditioned rooms, such as the public library or other air conditioned public building. Check regularly on young children, people age 65 or older, those who are overweight, have a mental illness, or are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure. Don't forget about pets and other domesticated animals.

For up to date information, visit the Richland County website at co.richland.wi.us.