

WCTC firing range to remain closed through December

School limiting access under COVID-19 precautions

By Jake Ekdahl
jekdahl@conley.net.com
262-513-2657

PEWAUKEE — Waukesha County Technical College's firing range, which is sometimes used for firearms practice by the public, is set to remain closed through Dec. 31.

The range will still be used by law enforcement students and agencies, however, for practice. WCTC is keeping the range and other facilities like the gym closed to the general public

for the time being due to COVID-19 precautions.

"We aren't opening up a large access to the public beyond our students," said WCTC Director of Public Relations Andy Palen. "We'll continue to re-evaluate as the situation involving COVID-19 changes."

The \$1 million range opened in 2013, occupying 12,000 square feet of a manufacturing plant near WCTC's campus. It's used regularly by law enforcement officers throughout the region seeking to update

their gun handling and shooting skills, as well as the school's law enforcement students.

WCTC's previous range was closed for air quality reasons and never replaced. It was converted into the Style & Class Salon for the School of Cosmetology.

WCTC opened for the fall term Monday with coronavirus precautions in place, including wearing face masks, ramping up cleaning and altering spaces to accommodate social distancing, among other things.

"At this time, community members will only have access to the Enrollment and Testing Centers by entering through the main College Center building,"

the school said, in a statement. "All other areas on campus are designated for staff and students only. A WCTC identification card is required to enter all buildings except for the Enrollment and Testing Centers."

The school previously opened on a limited capacity June 1.

"The College will follow guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and the Waukesha County Department of Health and Human Services as we move forward with opening our campus for fall," said WCTC President Kaylen Betzig in a statement.