

# Red River County

Responds to Covid-19 (Coronavirus)

Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency

(Last updated March 25, 2020)

# There are NO known cases of Covid-19 in Red River county at this time

- Precautions
  - Wash hands
  - If you or someone you know is coughing, sneezing, or running a fever STAY HOME.
  - With active cough or sneezing, cover your mouth and/or nose. Wash hands immediately afterward.
  - The most accurate source of information can be found on the CDC website <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**RED RIVER COUNTY****DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER  
DUE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY  
EXTENDED & AMENDED DECLARATION**

**WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the coronavirus, now designated COVID-19, as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020, and**

**WHEREAS, COVID-19 was first detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019, and**

**WHEREAS, symptoms of COVID-19 can range from mild to severe illness and cause further complications including death, and**

**WHEREAS, the COVID-19 mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, and**

**WHEREAS, the continued worldwide spread of COVID-19 presents an imminent threat of widespread illness, which requires emergency action for the protection of the people of Red River County, and**

**WHEREAS, the implementation of mitigation strategies can slow the transmission of the disease, and**

**WHEREAS, this Declaration activates the County's Emergency Management Plan, and**


**WHEREAS, the County Judge of Red River County has determined that extraordinary measures must be taken to mitigate the effects of this public health emergency and to facilitate the efficient, rapid, and cooperative response to the emergency,**

**THEREFORE, Be It Proclaimed by the County Judge of Red River County that:**

- 1. A local state of disaster is hereby declared for Red River County pursuant to 418.108(a) of the Texas Government Code.**
- 2. The State of Disaster shall continue for a period of not more than seven days from the date of the declaration, unless continued or renewed by the Red River County Commissioners Court, pursuant to 418.108(b) of the Government Code.**
- 3. This Declaration of a Local State of Disaster shall be given prompt and general publicity and shall be filed promptly with the County Clerk, pursuant to 418.108(c) of the Government Code.**
- 4. This Declaration of a Local State of Disaster activates the Red River County Emergency Plan, pursuant to 418.108(d) of the Government Code.**
- 5. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.**
- 6. This Declaration authorizes the County Judge to take any actions necessary to promote health and suppress the coronavirus, including the quarantine of persons and occupied structures, examining and regulating hospitals, regulating ingress and egress from the County, regulating ingress and egress to occupied structures, establishment of quarantine stations, emergency hospitals and other hospitals, and ensuring compliance for those who do not comply with the County rules and directives.**

7. That all Game Rooms shall be closed beginning at 11:59 P.M. on March 25, 2020, and continuing until such time as this Declaration of Disaster shall expire. Game Rooms, which are operated within other businesses, such as convenience stores and restaurants, may continue operations of those other businesses, pursuant to the President and Governor's proclamations, as long as all games are non-operational.
8. This Declaration hereby limits the size of gatherings of not more than 10 people and mandates the cancellation of all such gatherings of more than 10 people until further notice. A gathering refers generally to a scheduled event, a common endeavor where 10 persons are present in a confined space, room, or area.
9. In accordance with Texas Govt. Code 418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this Declaration commits an offense punishable by a fine up to \$1,000 or confinement in Jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.
10. This Declaration hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.
11. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance and upon approval of the Commissioners Court shall continue in effect until terminated by the County Judge. Pursuant to this Declaration, additional directives may be issued by the County Judge as being necessary.

ORDERED on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, at 12 Noon.

SIGNED:   
L.D. Williamson, County Judge

FILED FOR RECORD  
10:41 o'clock A M. on

MAR 25 2020

  
SHAWN WEEMES, COUNTY CLERK  
RED RIVER CO., TX

# Executive Order

BY THE  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department  
Austin, Texas  
March 22, 2020

EXECUTIVE ORDER  
GA 09

*Relating to hospital capacity during the COVID-19 disaster.*

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WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Department of State Health Services has determined that, as of March 19, 2020, COVID-19 represents a public health disaster within the meaning of Chapter 81 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, I issued an executive order in accordance with the President's Coronavirus Guidelines for America, as promulgated by President Donald J. Trump and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and mandated certain obligations for Texans that are aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, a shortage of hospital capacity or personal protective equipment would hinder efforts to cope with the COVID-19 disaster; and

WHEREAS, hospital capacity and personal protective equipment are being depleted by surgeries and procedures that are not medically necessary to correct a serious medical condition or to preserve the life of a patient, contrary to recommendations from the President's Coronavirus Task Force, the CDC, the U.S. Surgeon General, and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and

WHEREAS, various hospital licensing requirements would stand in the way of implementing increased occupancy in the event of surge needs for hospital capacity due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the "governor is responsible for meeting . . . the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" under Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code, and the legislature has given the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility; and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.012, the "governor may issue executive orders . . . hav[ing] the force and effect of law;" and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.016(a), the "governor may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business or the orders or rules of a state agency if strict compliance with the provisions, orders, or rules would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster;" and

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
4:39 PM O'CLOCK  
MAR 22 2020

WHEREAS, under Section 418.173, failure to comply with any executive order issued during the COVID-19 disaster is an offense punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both fine and confinement.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order that, beginning now and continuing until 11:59 p.m. on April 21, 2020, all licensed health care professionals and all licensed health care facilities shall postpone all surgeries and procedures that are not immediately medically necessary to correct a serious medical condition of, or to preserve the life of, a patient who without immediate performance of the surgery or procedure would be at risk for serious adverse medical consequences or death, as determined by the patient's physician;

PROVIDED, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to any procedure that, if performed in accordance with the commonly accepted standard of clinical practice, would not deplete the hospital capacity or the personal protective equipment needed to cope with the COVID-19 disaster.

At the request of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, I hereby suspend the following provisions to the extent necessary to implement increased occupancy in the event of surge needs for hospital capacity due to COVID-19:

25 TAC Sec. 133.162(d)(4)(A)(iii)(I);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(f)(1)(A)(i)(II)-(III);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(f)(1)(B)(i)(III)-(IV);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(m)(1)(B)(ii);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(1)(B)(iii)-(iv);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(1)(C);  
25 TAC Sec. 133.163(t)(5)(B)-(C); and  
any other pertinent regulations or statutes, upon written approval of the Office of the Governor.

This executive order shall remain in effect and in full force until 11:59 p.m. on April 21, 2020, unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by me or by a succeeding governor.



Given under my hand this the 22nd day of  
March, 2020.

A handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

GREG ABBOTT  
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

A handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughs in black ink.

RUTH R. HUGHS  
Secretary of State

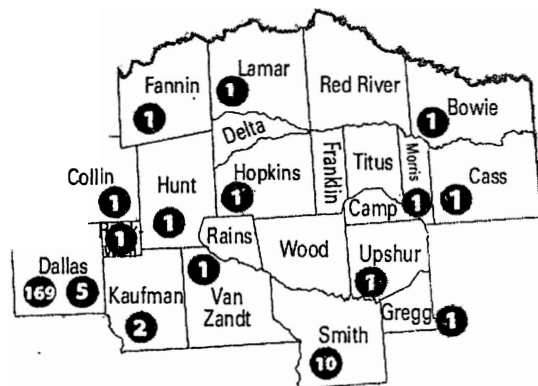
FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
4:39 PM O'CLOCK  
MAR 22 2020

## Map of COVID-19 cases

From: Taylor Nye (taylor.nye@ssnewstelegram.com)

To: redrivercj@yahoo.com

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2020, 10:24 AM CDT




Here's the map I just told you about. I update it every day between 9am and noon.

Best,  
Taylor

**Taylor Nye**  
Reporter  
Sulphur Springs News-Telegram  
[taylor.nye@ssnewstelegram.com](mailto:taylor.nye@ssnewstelegram.com)  
512 903 9008

This message (including any attachments) contains confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose, and is protected by law. Any disclosure, copying, or distribution of this message, or the taking of any action based on it, is strictly prohibited.

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- 5. This Declaration shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.**

**ORDERED on this, the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020, at 12 Noon.**

**SIGNED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**L.D. Williamson, County Judge**



# Still Active

- Drive thru eating establishments are still open
- Banks have drive thru banking and ATM banking available.
- County offices are in operation but are not open to the public at this time.
- Emergency personnel are responding ie. police, EMS, and Sheriffs. (Please indicate any known potential for infection when requesting assistance.)

# Closures

- All county public schools
- County public library (see their flyer attached)
- Area churches
- Forestry office
- District Court has canceled court for this week and next week
- Area nursing homes - No visitation
- Extension Office

## **Red River County Public Library**

After careful consideration of the rapidly-evolving COVID-19/Coronavirus situation, **The Red River County Public Library will be closed effective immediately.**

*Containment measures that are in place **BEFORE** the virus emerges in a community are most effective!* We feel it is important, and our duty, to be proactive in taking any preventive actions that we can to protect the health of our patrons and our community. We urge all members of the community to follow the CDC guidelines found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**HOWEVER**, we are well aware how fundamental reading is to stave off loneliness, pass the time, and of course help us manage our mental health. During this time (that feels more like the plot of a novel than real life) we will be offering the following:

### **DRIVE-UP, CARRYOUT SERVICE**

During select hours, staff will be available to put your items in a designated spot by our library door. Our building will remain closed to the public, but we are happy to check out books and movies to keep you busy at home! *Items will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.* Because of expected disruptions to our delivery service, we can not guarantee a specific title for you.

You may search our card catalog on [rrlibrary.org](http://rrlibrary.org) or ask us for recommendations. Please keep your requests simple like "picture books w/ animals" or "Mary Higgins Clark or similar authors" or "funny movies rated PG-13 or lower."

You can send your requests by email, Facebook message, or text.

Call us: 903-427-3991

Email us at: [rrlibrary@email.com](mailto:rrlibrary@email.com)

Facebook message us: Red River County Public Library

Text: 580-579-0511

### **Scheduled Drive-Up Hours**

Monday 12pm-5pm

Tuesday 9am-12pm

1pm-5pm

Wednesday 12pm-5pm

Thursday 12pm-5pm



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

During times of crisis, the Texan spirit of service compels us to roll up our sleeves and take action. As we respond as a community to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, here are a few ways you can make a difference and support your fellow neighbors. **We urge volunteers to screen for COVID-19 per CDC guidelines before serving and to comply with all federal, state, and local orders.**



## Prevent the spread of COVID-19

Follow public health guidelines, such as limiting human contact, maintaining social distance, and practicing good hygiene.



## Support your local food bank

Help food banks meet rising demand by donating funds or food items. Call ahead to assess needs and drop-off instructions.



## Check in on your friends & neighbors

Perform virtual wellness checks, especially on those who are elderly or isolated, via phone calls, texts, e-mail, or video chats.



## Deliver meals

Help ensure vulnerable populations who are isolated or quarantined feel safe and cared for by delivering meals and supplies to their doors.



## Donate to nonprofits

Keep our communities resilient by giving to nonprofits, which support vulnerable populations and are a major economic driver in our state.



## Donate blood

Give blood to avoid another health crisis and ensure a lifesaving supply is available to those who need it most.



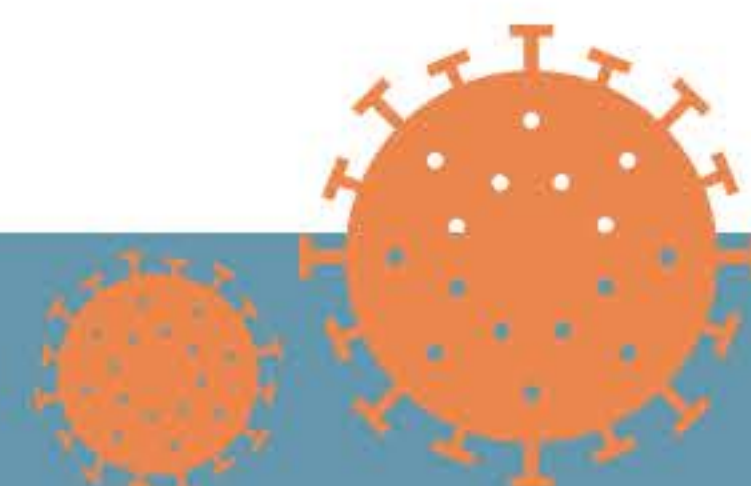
## Explore remote volunteer opportunities

Give your time and skills from the comfort and safety of your own home with virtual or online service opportunities.



## Donate supplies to healthcare providers

Support local health workers who are in need of personal protective equipment and cleaning supplies.



LEARN MORE ONLINE AT

# onestarfoundation.org/coronavirus