



Nacogdoches County Judge and Mayor Echo State of Texas' Executive Orders

Nacogdoches County Judge Greg Sowell and City of Nacogdoches Mayor Shelley Brophy have reiterated and echoed the executive orders issued by Texas Governor Abbott and Texas Department of State Health Services Commissioner John W. Hellerstedt, M.D on March 19, 2020.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott's executive statement orders the following:

1. People shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
2. People shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.
3. People shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
4. Schools shall temporarily close.

"This is not an order to shelter in place," Judge Sowell stated. "However, we as citizens of Nacogdoches County must discipline ourselves to avoid unnecessary contact with others for the overall public safety of those most at risk in our community."

"Our local businesses are extremely important to the vitality and quality of life in Nacogdoches," Mayor Shelley Brophy said. "However, we need to respond in solidarity as a community, which will determine how quickly we recover from this unprecedented incident."

For offices and workplaces that remain open, employees should practice good hygiene and, where feasible, work from home in order to optimize isolation from COVID- 19.

In order to help achieve these goals, people, businesses, and communities should immediately undertake hygiene, cleanliness, and sanitation practices that are accessible, affordable and known to be effective against COVID-19. These items include:

- Wash hands often and for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.
- If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

- People who are known to have or are under investigation or monitoring for COVID-19, should adhere to the direction provided to them by authorized persons, including public health officials.
 - Failure to abide by such direction may result in involuntary quarantine or isolation for the purposes of preventing further community spread of COVID-19.
- People who are ill, especially those with symptoms consistent with influenza or COVID-19, should isolate themselves at home until they recover. Such persons should only present for medical evaluation and treatment if their symptoms are such that they cannot continue to be cared for in their home. And, when seeking medical care, should call their doctor or health care facility before arriving to allow them to prepare.

Public officials urge residents of Nacogdoches County to continue to remain calm and stay informed by seeking facts from the Centers for Disease Control and the Texas Department of State Health Services.