



April 2, 2020

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**Contact:**

Will Daves  
Code Enforcement Officer  
830.833.4525  
codecompliance@cityofblanco.com

## **City of Blanco will enforce the Governor's order, GA-14**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, APRIL 2, 2020:**

BLANCO — Effective Thursday, the City of Blanco will begin the process of enforcing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's Stay at Home order requiring the closure of nonessential businesses.

The order, issued by the governor on Tuesday, (March 31, 2020) requires all people in Texas to "minimize social gatherings" and maintain social distancing measures "except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services."

The executive order is a Stay Home, Stay Safe order, that specifically restricts "gyms, massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios [and] cosmetology salons," while maintaining restrictions on bars and limiting restaurants to carry-out or delivery service only. The order also restricts businesses who provide non-essential services as defined by the Texas Department of Emergency Management at [www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices](http://www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices). It also allows for local officials to enforce the order.

The governor's order goes into effect on Thursday, April 2, 2020. This order will stand through April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The City of Blanco PD and Code Enforcement will begin educating businesses before moving to enforcement if necessary. The only way we as a City can stop the spread of the coronavirus is to work together and take responsibility for staying home and maintaining the social distancing measures ordered by the Governor of Texas.

The City also will begin strictly enforcing already existing rules limiting use of city-owned facilities and park.

City of Blanco PD will be monitoring the parks, businesses and gathering places, including the river beginning this weekend to make sure they are not being used as gathering places.

Educations will be the goal, however if necessary, enforcement will result is \$1000 fine per occurrence.

The decision to begin enforcement came after collaboration between the Mayor, the City Council, City Attorney's Office, the Blanco PD and the Blanco County Office of Emergency Management.

**For the purposes of Texas Executive Order GA-14 the following are considered “Essential Services”:**

[ADVISORY MEMORANDUM ON IDENTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKERS DURING COVID-19 RESPONSE](#)

- **CISA Identification of Essential Critical Infrastructure Sectors:**
  1. HEALTHCARE / PUBLIC HEALTH
  2. LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS
  3. FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
  4. ENERGY
  5. WATER AND WASTEWATER
  6. TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS
  7. PUBLIC WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT SERVICES
  8. COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
  9. OTHER COMMUNITY- OR GOVERNMENT-BASED OPERATIONS AND ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS
  10. CRITICAL MANUFACTURING
  11. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
  12. FINANCIAL SERVICES
  13. CHEMICAL
  14. DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE
  15. COMMERCIAL FACILITIES
  16. RESIDENTIAL/SHELTER FACILITIES AND SERVICES
  17. HYGIENE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
- **Religious services conducted in churches, congregations, and houses of worship.**
- **Other services as approved by the Texas Division of Emergency Management.**

Minimum encouraged and enforceable policies:

- 12 a.m. curfew
- Restaurants will continue curbside or delivery only.
- Gatherings of 10 or less.
- 6 Foot Social Distancing.
- Create “ONE WAY” Isles within your store. This helps to promote 6 foot social distancing.
- Hand Sanitizer available at each Entrance/Exit and checkout counters.
- Sanitary wipes located at entrance/exit to wipe down carts. All Carts must be wiped down before each customer use or wipes available for each customer to wipe down cart.
- Sanitary wipes located at check out to wipe down Credit Card Machine and counters before and after use.
- Limit accessibility to one (1) entrance and one (1) exit when applicable.
- Wash produce regularly.
- Request customers to use their own pen or wipe down after use.
- In some cases, limiting occupancy to 10 may be required.
- **ALL ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES WILL MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO REDUCE “TOUCH POINTS”.**