



City of Helotes

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Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update – April 23, 2020

Texas Governor announces statewide executive order regarding retail business

Texas Governor, Greg Abbott, has announced executive order GA-16 that is currently effective through Thursday, April 30, 2020. The order outlines operation changes for retail businesses and reopened services throughout the state. Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, April 24, retail stores may reopen for pickup, delivery, or curbside service in compliance with social distancing and good hygiene measures. These businesses are referred to as “reopened services” because they may not have been previously categorized as “essential” in previous executive orders.

The executive order **prohibits** the following activities or business services through April 30, 2020:

- Dine-in eating or drinking at bars and restaurants
- Visiting gyms or massage establishments
- Tattoo or piercing services
- Cosmetology salons
- Visiting nursing homes or senior living centers, except to provide critical assistance
- Schools shall remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year

The executive order **does not prohibit** people from the following activities, so long as the necessary precautions of social distancing and good hygiene remain to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19:

- Accessing essential or reopened services
- Going to the grocery store or gas station
- Visiting parks
- Hunting or fishing
- Engaging in physical activity outside, such as jogging or bicycling

The following orders remain in effect through April 30 as previously announced by Bexar County:

- Individuals are encouraged to stay home, unless participating in essential businesses or reopened services.
- Individuals over the age of 10 are required to wear a cloth face covering while in public and when six feet social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Essential and reopened businesses are required to provide cloth face coverings for employees who may come in direct contact with other staff or the public and when six feet social distancing cannot be maintained.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet shall be maintained between people in public places.
- Good hygiene should be practiced to help reduce the spread of germs, including COVID-19, including frequent hand washing and regular cleaning of high touch services.

Additional announcements regarding the Governor’s plan to reopen Texas are expected next week. Continue to check the City of Helotes website at www.helotes-tx.gov and social media for updates.