



THE CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

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NEWS RELEASE

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Lake Jackson, Texas

COVID-19 CASES & OPENINGS UPDATES

We hope everyone had a good Memorial Day weekend. The number of new cases in Brazoria County appear to be dropping. The only caveat is the prison units are not reporting any cases. We do not know if that is because they are actually not experiencing any new cases, or they are simply not reporting them.

Brazoria County now has 853 confirmed cases as of 5/26/20. Inmates make up about 256 of these cases. If those are removed from the total number of cases that leaves 591 cases related to actual residents of Brazoria County. The county reports 447 cases have recovered (the prison system has not reported any recoveries apparently). So, Brazoria County has 144 active COVID-19 cases in the county. Lake Jackson now has 18 confirmed cases, with 15 recovered. This leaves us still with 3 active cases in our city.

Governor Abbott is slowly opening the Texas economy as he updates his orders. Please know that there are no orders from our County Judge or Mayor in place. Judge Sebesta's order expired in late April. Mayor Sipple never put an order in place as the City chose to abide by the orders of Judge Sebesta initially and now Governor Abbott. Recall, the Governor basically stripped the authority of Counties or Cities to put in place orders that did not conform to his orders. So, all existing requirements and restrictions in place are those ordered by the Governor.

For example, we are working to partially reopen our Recreation Center to meet the Governor's orders. Like other gyms, we can only operate at 25% capacity. We must distance people and equipment 6 feet apart. We must ask members to wear gloves and, where practical, wear face masks. Staff must sanitize each piece of equipment after it is used. We cannot open our shower facilities or lockers. Our Recreation Center staff has put out an excellent booklet detailing our partial reopening and our efforts to adhere to the Governor's very detailed orders. You can see the Governor's orders for each type of business and what the requirements are by going to the Governor's website at www.gov.texas.gov/opentexas.

We believe we have finally caught up with our heavy trash collection. Please remember not to put out any heavy trash/brush on the weeks you are not scheduled for collection. Remember, if you receive regular garbage collection on Monday/Thursdays your heavy trash/brush is picked up on the weeks starting with the first and third Mondays of every month. If your regular garbage collection is on Tuesday/Fridays you receive your heavy trash/brush collection on the weeks beginning with the second and fourth Mondays of each month. There is no collection of heavy trash/brush on a week beginning with a fifth Monday. When those weeks occur, we use that time for special projects and preventive maintenance of our equipment. Also, there is a 16 cubic feet limit (about the size of a standard pickup truck bed) limit for what you can put out. Anything more than that is subject to an additional charge.

We are all waiting for more news from the Governor's office related to further loosening of the current restrictions he has put in place.