



THE CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

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NEWS RELEASE

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Lake Jackson, Texas

COVID-19 UPDATES & REMINDERS

Governor Abbott addressed, in a news conference yesterday, the exponential surge in positive COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations throughout Texas. He called this “surge” unacceptable and asked all Texans to redouble their efforts to help reduce the spread of this virus. He asked, once again, for all Texans to follow the protocols that have been in place for months; wash your hands frequently, don’t touch your face, use hand sanitizer, sanitize areas you come in contact with, and when you go to work or out for necessities to practice social distancing and wear a face covering or mask. The Governor said that while there is still an ample supply of hospital beds, that supply is being filled rapidly over the last week or so.

You could tell that he was pleading with Texans to follow these protocols and help bend the curve back down so that he doesn’t have to potentially issue orders to close portions of the economy down again. He indicated that would be a last resort for him.

Brazoria County continues to see a sharp increase in reported positive cases of COVID-19 as well. As of yesterday (6/22/20) the County was reporting 1,241 cases. There are now 473 active cases and 707 recoveries. Fourteen Brazoria County residents have died from the disease. The County Judge reported that hospitalizations are up, but we, too, still have capacity at our hospitals for COVID-19 patients.

Lake Jackson now has 41 reported cases, with 18 active cases, 22 recoveries and one probable. We have had two more City employees test positive for COVID-19, bringing the total number to 4 (3 of these are active and one recovered). We had another recreation center employee test positive. It is likely this employee contracted the virus from the previous employee who tested positive. We have started another round of testing of employees at the recreation center. Again, we are fortunate that these employees did not have contact with patrons.

We also have a police employee that has tested positive for COVID-19. This employee was actually on vacation and came in contact with a person infected and contracted the virus. Fortunately, this employee found out all of this before coming back to work so no other employees are affected. These three affected employees will follow the standard 14-day quarantine and then must test negative twice before they can return to work.

As mentioned last week, our code enforcement and inspections personnel are out delivering copies of the Governor’s protocols that he has asked businesses to follow in order to operate. This is an educational effort on our part since the key to any of this succeeding is voluntary compliance and cooperation by businesses and citizens alike. You can view these standards by visiting the Governor’s website at www.open.texas.gov.

Our prayers are with our employees, their families and all others who are battling this virus. Be safe.