

City of Boerne

WHAT YOU SHOULD AND SHOULD NOT DO

UNDER THE CITY'S PUBLIC EMERGENCY DECLARATION

We are **NOT** currently under an official “shelter-in-place” or “lockdown” order in Boerne; the following are intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Rev. 4/24/20

CHECK THE CITY OF BOERNE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES: www.boerne-tx.gov

FOLLOW BOERNE CITY HALL ON FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/BoerneCityHall/>

BISD INFO/UPDATES: <https://www.boerneisd.net/>

#KendallStrong - SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES: <https://kendallstrong.net/>

DOES THIS EMERGENCY DECLARATION APPLY IN KENDALL COUNTY AREAS OR THE CITY'S ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction)?

The City of Boerne public emergency declaration **ONLY** applies in the Boerne city limits and **has been extended through April 30** unless rescinded or further extended - **see update below**. Kendall County has issued an emergency declaration and you can find that info on the Kendall County website: <https://www.co.kendall.tx.us/>

APRIL 23 UPDATE:

Mayor Tim Handren updated the City's emergency declaration orders, effective 4/24/20, strategically allowing non-essential businesses in the city limits to "reopen" as long as specific rules are followed. "Reopened Services" may provide retail services to customers by mail, by curbside pickup, by delivery to the customer's doorstep, or by in-store appointments as long as employees follow CDC guidelines for physical social distancing, sanitation, and wearing of face coverings to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The update was issued to clarify the implementation of our local disaster declaration. In some cases, businesses have been told they cannot "reopen" per authority and regulation outside the City's purview. The City's action did not release individual business owners from regulations and responsibilities mandated by other agencies unique to their business operation such as the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. Instead, we left the decision regarding running the business to the business owner.

WHICH BUSINESSES ARE CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL AND WHICH ARE NOT?

Please visit the City of Boerne website COVID-19 page to see the listing of essential services and workforce descriptions. <http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/1822/COVID-19>

CAN I GO OUTSIDE FOR A WALK, EXERCISE, WALK THE DOGS, DO YARDWORK?

Yes, getting outdoors is a good thing, just practice social distancing, avoid personal contact, and wash your hands when you get back home. Social distancing is a precaution recommended by the CDC to stop the spread of COVID19. Outdoor activities are recommended as long as you take the precautions of limiting the distance between you and others by six feet and avoid groups OF ANY SIZE. Walking trails are open and your family dogs will appreciate the outing. BOERNE CITY LAKE PARK AND THE BOERNE SKATE PARK ARE NOW COMPLETELY CLOSED.

WHAT ARE THE CDC GUIDELINES ON WEARING MASKS OR FACE COVERINGS?

The CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission.

CDC also advises the use of simple cloth face coverings to slow the spread of the virus and help people who may have the virus and do not know it from transmitting it to others. Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure. Learn more at this link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

ARE PRIVATE GARAGE/YARD SALES ALLOWED?

No, these are not considered essential and there is not a practical way to practice social distancing nor prevent shoppers from touching items and spreading COVID-19.

CAN DAY CARE CENTERS STILL OPERATE?

Yes, under the current City of Boerne emergency declaration, day care centers are still able to continue operation if strictly following CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 or any germs for that matter. CDC guidelines are constantly updated - visit this website: www.cdc.gov

CAN CONSTRUCTION SITES REMAIN OPEN?

Construction is still an essential activity under the current City of Boerne order. Use social distancing and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19 or any germs for that matter.

CAR DEALERSHIPS - CAN THEY STAY OPEN?

Car dealerships are considered essential businesses and can remain open for both sales and service, as well as internet sales. Engage in social distancing and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

AM I REQUIRED TO STAY IN MY HOUSE FOR 2 WEEKS?

It is highly recommended that you limit going out unless it's absolutely necessary. You should still go to the grocery store, gas station, bank or restaurant or to work if required by your business. Practice social distancing at all times, follow CDC prevention guidelines, and wash your hands frequently.

WHAT BUSINESSES CAN REMAIN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

Please visit the City of Boerne website COVID-19 page to see the listing of essential services and workforce descriptions. <http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/1822/COVID-19>

WHAT BUSINESSES ARE REQUIRED TO BE CLOSED?

Please visit the City of Boerne website COVID-19 page to see the listing of essential services and workforce descriptions. <http://www.ci.boerne.tx.us/1822/COVID-19>

WILL HOTELS AND MOTELS BE ALLOWED TO STAY OPEN?

Yes, we are considering hotels as essential due to the services they provide. Stay safe and please review CDC's guidelines to ensure your guests and employees remain safe. Avoid personal contact to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

ARE THERE COVID-19 TESTING FACILITIES IN BOERNE?

No public testing facilities are in Boerne; however, there are private clinics here that are testing.

MY BOSS SAYS I HAVE TO COME TO WORK; IS THAT RIGHT?

That is between you and your boss. If your business is considered an essential service, then you likely need to report to work unless you are sick. Avoid personal contact and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Wash your hands frequently.

ARE REALTORS STILL ALLOWED TO SHOW HOMES FOR SALE?

Yes, the home sales and services are considered essential, but it will be up to your clients to let you into their homes/businesses. If you can guarantee without a doubt that you, or your team, are not infected or that no one in any of the homes that you are showing are infected, then use your own judgement. We recommend you don't risk it.

DO MODEL HOMES NEED TO BE CLOSED?

While showing a model home may not be essential at this time, that decision is up to the builder or developer. **WE HIGHLY DISCOURAGE IT.** Refer to the Texas Board of Realtors for guidance.

ARE HAIR AND NAIL SALONS or SPAS ALLOWED TO OPERATE? UPDATED

According to the Texas Governor's emergency orders, these businesses must be closed through **April 30th, 2020**. Hair salons, nail salons and spas are considered non-essential; the **City's amended order of 4.23.20 allows for appointments for those businesses that wish to open; however, strict CDC guidelines must be followed. Business owners should follow all their current licensing requirements.**

IF I AM WORKING OUT OF STATE AND RETURNING TO BOERNE NEXT WEEK MUST I SELF-QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS?

Yes, you can travel to work outside the Boerne city limits or return to Boerne; however, if you travel to a known area with COVID-19 community spread, you are strongly urged to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

CAN I CONTINUE TO WORK AT MY OFFICE WHEN ITS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC?

If your business is considered an essential service, then you likely need to report to work unless you are sick. Avoid personal contact and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Wash your hands frequently.

CAN I STILL OPERATE MY INDEPENDENT CONSTRUCTION/HANDYMAN BUSINESS?

Construction and remodeling projects should proceed. If you have an emergency situation at your home, a handyman service or construction contractor is considered essential. If the work is something that can be delayed, that is what we recommend in order to prevent the spread of this virus.

CAN I KEEP MY ACCOUNTING OR INSURANCE OFFICE OPEN?

These offices need to be closed to the public and business conducted online or by phone. Employees should avoid personal contact and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Wash hands frequently.

WHAT ABOUT HOME CLEANING SERVICES - CAN I STILL OPERATE MY INDEPENDENT BUSINESS?

If you can guarantee without a doubt that you are not infected or that no one in any of the homes that you clean are infected, then use your own judgement. We recommend you don't risk it.

ARE PHYSICAL THERAPY AND CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES?

The City of Boerne emergency declaration now includes the same list of essential services as the State of Texas emergency declaration orders. These businesses are considered essential and must strictly follow all CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

CAN I STILL ATTEND PHYSICAL THERAPY OR A CHIROPRACTOR?

Yes, the City of Boerne emergency declaration now includes the same list of essential services as the State of Texas emergency declaration orders. These businesses are considered essential and must strictly follow all CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

CAN RESTAURANTS REMAIN OPEN FOR TO-GO ORDERS?

Yes, however public indoor dining is PROHIBITED by the Governor's public health emergency declaration through May 30th. Avoid personal contact and follow updated CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Wash your hands frequently.

ARE SWIMMING POOL SERVICE COMPANIES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?

Yes, pool services are allowed since they reduce the risk of other health hazards.

ARE LANDSCAPING BUSINESSES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?

Yes, landscaping and lawn care services are currently allowed under the Mayor's proclamation.

ARE PEST CONTROL COMPANIES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?

Yes, the services are considered essential to prevent vermin and the spread of other diseases, but it is going to be up to your clients to let you into their homes/businesses. If you can guarantee without a doubt that you, or your team, are not infected or that no one in any of the homes that you service are infected, then use your own judgement. We recommend you don't risk it.

I WORK IN ANOTHER SURROUNDING CITY, CAN I STILL TRAVEL TO WORK?

Yes, you can travel to work outside the Boerne city limits; however, if you travel to a known area with COVID-19 community spread, you are strongly urged to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

PLEASE NOTE:

UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES RELATED TO COVID-19, ALL OF THESE STATEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME.

IF YOU STILL HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE SEND US AN EMAIL TO COVID19@boerne-tx.gov

We will respond to you as quickly as possible between the hours of 8am and 5pm M-F.

