



COVID-19

Response and Continuity of Operations Plan

Fannin County, TX

for September 1, 2020

(This report can change daily)

Public Health Report

- For the most up to date statistics in Texas, please visit:
<https://txdshs.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ed483ecd702b4298ab01e8b9cafc8b83>

Emergency Declaration

- Fannin County has issued a State of Emergency and Public Health Emergency to help lower the curve of infection and to protect our citizens.
- Texas is currently under a State of Disaster Proclamation by Governor Abbot.

Individual Business Operations

- As of July 7, 2020, Fannin County is following Governor Abbott's Executive Orders [GA-19](#), [GA-24](#), [GA-25](#) and [GA-26](#), [GA-26 Amendment Proclamation](#), [GA-28](#), [GA-28 Amendment Proclamation](#) and [GA-29](#).

County and Court Operations

- Most non-essential court operations in Fannin County have been postponed until September 8, 2020. Essential court proceedings will continue as scheduled and are defined by the respective courts' orders. Call the appropriate court for specific information on your case.

336th District Court and County Court at Law Covid-19 Operating Plan: [Click Here](#)

Governor Abbot's Executive Order or any Shelter in Place Order DOES NOT affect child custody orders regarding access and possession of children by trial court such as the 336th District Court and the County Court at Law. Local standing order addressing this is on file with the Fannin County District Clerk and on the Fannin County Website:

336th District Court General Order – Child Custody: [Click here](#)

336th District Court Standing Order – Child Protection Cases: [Click here](#)

336th District Court General Order – School Holidays: [Click here](#)

- County office operations and services shall be by call ahead appointment only. Business hours and phone numbers will be placed on the public entrances and available on the County website.
- Inmate visitation and inmate programs at the Fannin County Detention Facility have been cancelled until further notice. Attorney visits are still permitted, but the procedures for the visits have changed.
- All non-critical work-related out of county travel by county employees is prohibited. All county employee work-related travel for training and conferences has been cancelled through September 8, 2020.

- County employees with fever or flu-like symptoms are required to stay home from work and are prohibited from returning to work until they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.
- Fannin County employees have been directed to cancel all non-critical staff meetings & community meetings.
- If a Fannin County employee shows signs of illness or are sent home by their supervisor because they are sick, accumulated sick time will be used until it is exhausted followed by accumulated comp time until it is exhausted and lastly, the County will compensate any time if needed during the period of September 1, 2020 through September 8, 2020. The absent employee should keep in contact with their supervisor on a daily basis if possible.
- On March 31, 2020 action was taken by the Fannin County Commissioners Court to approve H.R. 6201, Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA), regarding paid sick leave for county employees who qualify. The FFCRA Eligibility, Rights and Responsibilities Form available in the Treasurer's office shall be filled out for those who want to participate.
- On March 31, 2020 action was taken by the Fannin County Commissioners Court to name all Fannin County employees as essential.
- On May 12, 2020, the Fannin County Commissioners Court voted to approve having all employees return to their offices to work.
- On April 7, 2020 and May 12, 2020 action was taken by the Fannin County Commissioners Court to allow employees who are at high risk to work from home if possible.
- On July 7, 2020, Commissioners Court approved the following guidelines per Governor Abbott's GA-29: Unless separated by a partition, County employees must wear a face covering when face to face with the public where social distancing cannot be maintained or when entering a public space. A face covering is not required to be worn at the employee's individual desk if the public is not present and social distancing can be maintained.

County Closures & Cancellations

- All updates will be posted on the Fannin County website: co.fannin.tx.us.

Actions and Response relating to Commissioners Court:

The Fannin County Commissioners Court is continuing to hold meetings in person as well as via teleconference until further notice. Information for each meeting will be placed on the agenda for that week which is available on the County website: www.co.fannin.tx.us.

Prevention:

There are simple steps everyone can take to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer of at least 60% alcohol often

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Minimizing exposure is especially important for people who are 65 or older or who have an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, high blood pressure or cancer. People in those groups have a higher risk of developing severe disease if they do get COVID-19, and the safest thing for them during an outbreak will be to stay home as much as possible and minimize close contact with other people. To get ready, they should talk to their doctor about getting additional prescription medications and have enough household items and groceries on hand to stay home as needed.

Links / Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>

What to expect from your doctor:

If Mild Symptoms:

- Ask patient to stay home and monitor their temperature and respiratory condition
- Check back with the office in 24 hours if the symptoms remain mild
- If the symptoms worsen rapidly, contact a hospital ER
- Give patient the DSHS state Coronavirus website: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/> and state Coronavirus Call Center @ 1-877-570-9779

If Moderate Symptoms:

- Ask patient to come to office for evaluation
- Mark schedule clearly as a potential viral patient
- When patient arrives at clinic, ask if it is possible to wait in their car until it's time to be seen
- If patient enters the clinic, sequester them immediately to a side of the waiting room, hand them a paper towel and ask them to cough/sneeze with caution
- Take temperature immediately

Make sure that these patients do not mingle with other patients in waiting room. Each of these patients should have their temperature taken as soon as possible either in their car or in the sequestered area inside the clinic.

If Severe Symptoms:

- Ask patient to directly contact a hospital ER to inquire what they should do, i.e., what is the hospital's present policy on possible coronavirus infection
- Have numbers of the closest hospital's Emergency Rooms and give them to the patients

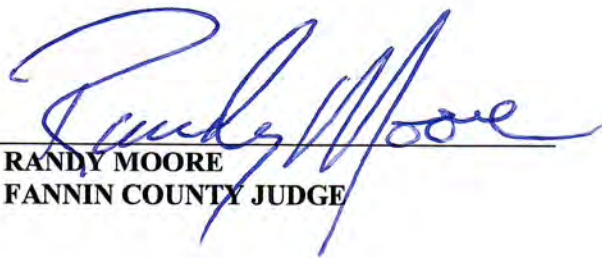
If Other Questions:

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has posted guidance on what to do if you get sick at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/steps-when-sick.html

The Texas DSHS state Coronavirus website: <https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/>

This plan, dated September 1, 2020 supersedes any previous guidance.

Adopted this 1st day of September, 2020.



RANDY MOORE
FANNIN COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:



Tammy Biggar, Fannin County Clerk

