The following questions, answers and requirements are intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19 as we reopen Boerne businesses.

Rev. 5/8/2020

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/

BOERNE STRONG STIMULUS PROGRAM: http://www.boerne-tx.gov/boernestrong

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

GOVERNOR’S OPEN TEXAS UPDATES: https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas

DOES THE CITY’S 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Boerne public emergency declaration ONLY applies in the Boerne city limits and has been extended through May 15 unless rescinded or further extended. Kendall County has issued an emergency declaration and you can find that info on the Kendall County website: https://www.co.kendall.tx.us/

WHICH BUSINESSES CAN REOPEN? UPDATED

Retail services, dine-in restaurant services, movie theaters, shopping malls, museums, and libraries, golf courses, swimming pools and wedding and reception venues. These services are allowed to have up to 25%- 50% of their permitted occupancy and must continue to follow social distancing and CDC recommended health and sanitation practices. As of Friday, May 8 cosmetology salons, hair salons, barbershops, nail salons/shops, and tanning salons can reopen under certain conditions. https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas

WHAT BUSINESSES ARE STILL REQUIRED TO BE CLOSED? UPDATED

Based on the State orders, people shall avoid visiting bars, massage establishments, tattoo and piercing studios, gyms, interactive amusement venues such as bowling alleys and video arcades, amusement parks, water parks, or splash pads. The opening of the services may be considered by the Governor later in May.

ARE GATHERINGS STILL LIMITED? UPDATED
Yes, gatherings are limited to no more than 5 people who are not members of a household. Social distancing and effective hygiene protocols should be followed.

**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 that are not part of your own family. Walking trails are open and your family dogs will appreciate the outing.

**WHICH BOERNE PARKS ARE OPEN?**

Boerne City Lake Park is open daily from 9am- 5pm for people with a Boerne address ONLY. As always, people living in the Boerne city limits can obtain a pass for no charge; all others residing outside the city limits must pay the daily entrance fee or obtain a season pass for a fee.

All city parks and trails are open with the exception of Northrup Park and Kinder Park; however, all of the city’s public playgrounds remain closed. Restroom facilities are open; the tennis courts are open by appointment only; the skate park is open but limited to 4 skaters on the ramps at any given time.

**ARE FACE MASKS OR COVERINGS REQUIRED IN BOERNE? UPDATED**

No, they are not required under Boerne’s emergency declaration, but they are strongly recommended when in places where social distancing may not be possible. Under the Governor’s Open Texas orders many businesses are required to have face coverings for employees as well as customers.

**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](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html)

**ARE SWIMMING POOL SERVICE COMPANIES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?**

Yes, these services are allowed to operate following CDC guidelines for social distancing. Face coverings are strongly encouraged.

**ARE THERE COVID-19 TESTING FACILITIES IN BOERNE? UPDATED**
There is private testing in Boerne; contact the local clinics if there are symptoms present. A mobile testing site, with free testing, was held in Boerne on May 1 and in Comfort on May 7. If we are notified of future mobile testing dates, that info will be posted on the city’s website and on social media.

ARE HAIR AND NAIL SALONS ALLOWED TO OPERATE? UPDATED

According to the Texas Governor’s executive order GA-21, these businesses may be open as long as the employees and customers follow prescribed health and sanitation protocols, require social distancing and wear face coverings.

ARE PRIVATE GARAGE/YARD SALES ALLOWED? UPDATED  

Yes, as long as all social distancing, sanitation, and face covering protocols are followed by employees and customers.

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.

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.

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.

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.

ARE LANDSCAPING BUSINESSES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?
Yes, these services are allowed to operate following CDC guidelines for social distancing. Face coverings are strongly encouraged.

**CAN I CONTINUE TO WORK AT MY OFFICE WHEN IT’S 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.

**ARE PEST CONTROL COMPANIES STILL ALLOWED TO OPERATE?**

Yes, these services are allowed to operate following CDC guidelines for social distancing. Face coverings are strongly encouraged.

**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.