

Frequently Asked Questions

About the Nueces County Stay at Home Order

View extended orders here: <https://www.nuecesco.com/home/showdocument?id=24960>

When does the order take effect?

- *The first order began at 11:59pm on March 26th, 2020. The First Amended Order extending the first order was issued on April 2, 2020 and began immediately.*

When does the order end?

- *The extended order ends at 11:59pm on April 30th, 2020.*

What cities does the order apply?

- *All Cities within Nueces County. Including but not limited to: Aqua Dulce, Aransas Pass, Banquete, Bishop, Corpus Christi, Driscoll, La Paloma – Lost Creek CDP, North San Pedro, Petronila, Port Aransas, Rancho Banquete, Robstown, San Patricio, Sandy Hollows – Escondidas CDP, Spring Gardens, and Tierra Grande.*

Is it mandatory or is this a recommendation?

- *This order is mandatory and violation of this order can result in a fine of up to \$500.00 for the first violation and a \$1,000.00 fine and up to 180 days in jail for a second violation.*

How will this Stay at Home Order be enforced?

- *Any licensed Peace officer may enforce the Stay at Home Order.*

Do I need some documentation from my employer proving that I am an essential employee?

- *No. No documentation is required from the employer.*

What is considered an essential business during this time?

- *The order defines essential business as critical government operations, healthcare operations, critical infrastructure, transportation for essential functions, restaurants, essential retail, providers of necessities to economically disadvantaged populations, essential services to maintain essential operations of residences and businesses, news media, childcare services for exempted employees of essential functions, and businesses who retrofit operations to support critical functions (by application). More details and definitions for these businesses can be found within the Stay at Home Order.*

What was the criteria in selecting essential businesses?

- *The County utilized guidelines provided by Homeland Security to identify essential businesses.*

Are home repair/lawn care and other contractor services considered essential business?

- *Home repair/ and lawn care both fall under essential services needed to maintain the essential operations of a residence. It is important that homes remain safe for the occupants during the Stay at Home Order.*

Is public transportation still operational (The B, ride-share and taxi service)?

- *Yes, public transportation will still be operational, and is a critical tool for helping ensure residents can maintain essential activities, or support those with roles for essential businesses or government operations.*

Can I still visit my family/friends as long as we're in our homes?

- *Social visits and gatherings are prohibited during the duration of the Stay at Home Order. Visits to friends and family are only permitted if they are tied to an essential activity, such as to provide care for, or deliver services or supplies to a family member(s) or pet(s) in another household.*

Can I go to the store for my family/friends that are considered in the vulnerable population and deliver things to them?

- *Yes, providing supplies are permitted under the Stay at Home Order. The purpose of this order to help limit the exposure of the vulnerable population, so please exercise social distancing with all interactions outside your household.*

What do I do if there is a service that I consider essential but is not included as an essential business from the Nueces County Stay at Home Order?

- *You may contact the Nueces County Attorney hotline at (to be provided on March 28 or email at nueces.countyattorney@nuecesco.com*

Will roads be closed?

- *No roads will be closed as a result of the Stay at Home Order, with the exception of the beach access roads, being closed as a result of the temporary 8pm beach curfew.*

Will restaurants still be allowed to provide curbside delivery and takeout?

- *Yes, restaurants are an essential business and will still authorized to be open for takeout options.*

Can I walk my dog or take it to the vet?

- *Yes, the health and wellbeing of pets are categorized as an essential activity. Please continue to practice social distancing during your walks.*

Will the public parks be open? Are the playgrounds on public parks open?

- *Parks and playgrounds on public parks will remain open for the duration of the Stay at Home Order.*

Can I walk/exercise/jog on the Seawall or in any public space?

- *Yes, personal health and wellbeing is categorized as an essential activity. It is important that you maintain social distancing.*

Are daycares/childcare facilities open?

- *Childcare services are authorized to operate only for the essential business and government workforce.*

Can I attend a religious service?

- *Residents are not permitted to attend religious and worship services in person. Religious and worship services may be provided by video and teleconference. All gatherings of any size are prohibited during the Stay at Home Order.*

I would like to volunteer to help individuals that are in need, such as the elderly, the homeless population, children in need of meals or assistance with at-home learning. Does the Stay At Home Order prevent me from doing that?

- *Volunteers are permitted to deliver services or supplies to others necessary to maintain the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences. For example, food, pet supply, and other household consumer products.*

How will the governing agencies/authorities know that I have left my house for an allowed reason? Will I be stopped and asked where I am going?

- *Authorities will not actively stop or arrest residents for leaving their house. However, if there is a blatant disregard of the law, authorities will enforce the law.*

What if I am unsure of whether my business should remain open or closed? Is there a governing authority to give me guidance?

- *The City and County Attorney's Office are collaborating to provide uniform answers to persons who are attempting to determine whether their business should be continued under the Stay at Home Order.*

What is the guidance for people with intellectual, developmental disabilities?

- *Essential healthcare operations and government functions will continue to operate during the Stay at Home Order. Individuals with intellectual, developmental disabilities will continue to receive care from their health care provider. Home-based and residential-based care for seniors, adults, or children are also considered healthcare operations.*

How will this Stay at Home Order affect individuals who reside in Assisted Living Facilities?

- *The workforce that provide services for assisted living facilities are considered essential. All non-essential visitors will be prohibited, unless to provide critical assistance or for end-of-life visitation.*

If my friend/family member is hospitalized for any condition not related to COVID-19, will I be able to visit them in the hospital?

- *The primary goal of the Stay at Home Order is to stop the spread of COVID-19. Hospitals contain some of the most vulnerable individuals. While hospitals will remain open, all non-essential visitors. Individuals who need to provide a care for or a service for hospitalized patients are permitted as those are essential activities.*