



Good Afternoon Leon Valley Residents and Business Owners! I was hoping that by now, we would be writing to congratulate everyone on surviving this pandemic, and providing great news that all restrictions have been lifted. Unfortunately, I am not yet able to do so. Despite all of your hard work and conscientious following of the guidelines, the rate of infections, hospitalizations, intensive care patients and patients on ventilators have doubled over the past few weeks. The reason for this is simple: not wearing masks, not utilizing social distancing, and going out of our houses as if there is nothing to worry about. That could not be further from the truth. Since I last wrote, the Governor's Executive Order GA-26 allowed all businesses to open up at levels of 50%-75% occupancy (except assisted living facilities). It also removed restrictions on interactive exhibits but still required businesses and customers to follow business specific checklists with CDC recommended guidelines. Although there are no penalties involved in not following the CDC guidelines, the Governor strongly urged everyone to do so, as well as to stay home if in a high-risk category, or when you can to help slow the spread of this deadly disease. Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-26 can be found at https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-26_expanded_opening_COVID-19.pdf.

On June 17, 2020, Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff released Executive Order NW-10. The order can be found at <https://www.bexar.org/DocumentCenter/View/27118/Bexar-County-Executive-Order-NW-10-issued-June-17-2020?bidId=>. This order states, "From the date of this Executive order, all commercial entities in Bexar County providing goods or services directly to the public must develop and implement a health and safety policy ("Health and Safety Policy"). The Health and Safety Policy must require, at a minimum, that all employees or visitors to the commercial entity's business premises or other facilities wear face coverings when in an area or performing an activity which will necessarily involve close contact or proximity to co-workers or the public where six feet of separation is not feasible."

Executive Order NW-10 also states, "That all people 10 years or older shall wear a face covering over their nose and mouth when in a public place where it is difficult to keep six feet away from other people or working in areas that involve close proximity with other coworkers. The CDC advises face coverings for people 2 years or older. Face coverings may include homemade masks, scarfs, bandanas, or a handkerchief. Bexar County residents should continue to maintain social distancing of at least six feet while outside their home."

According to Executive Order NW-10, "Face coverings do not need to be worn in the following circumstances:

- When exercising outside or engaging in physical activity outside;
- While driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver;
- When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety, or security risk;
- While pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment;
- While in a building or activity that requires security surveillance or screening, for example, banks; and
- When consuming food or drink.

Please note that face coverings are a secondary strategy to other mitigation efforts. Face coverings are not a replacement for social distancing, frequent handwashing, and self-isolation when sick. All people should follow CDC recommendations for how to wear and take off a mask."

Please remember, in accordance with the CDC Guidelines (found online at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>), residents should keep up the following habits while in public:

- Washing hands before you leave home and when you return;
- Staying at least six feet away from others;
- Avoiding touching nose or face;
- Not using disposable masks more than three times; and
- Washing reusable cloth masks regularly to prevent the spread of the virus.

Consistent with Executive Order GA-26 issued by Governor Greg Abbott, no civil or criminal penalty will be imposed on *individuals* for failure to wear a face covering, but a \$1000 fine can be assessed to the BUSINESS for NOT CREATING and ENFORCING the Health and Safety Policy required by the Bexar County Executive Order. As such, please do the businesses a favor and comply with the order as designed and required!

Also, since I last wrote, the Leon Valley City Council met and approved changes to our Emergency Declaration (2020-26). These changes allowed the Leon Valley Library to open back up for curbside services and accept book donations. You may now return books previously checked out, as well as reserve books for curbside pick-up by going online to <https://www.leonvalley.lib.tx.us/> or by calling (210) 684-0720.

The City Council also opened up all amenities in the parks to include the bathrooms, basketball courts, children's playgrounds, tennis courts, pavilion, soccer fields, and baseball fields. For reservations on any of these, please call the City of Leon Valley at (210) 684-1391. A website for reservations will be online soon.

In addition, the City Council voted to open up the Forest Oaks Community Pool facility beginning on July 1, 2020. To stay in compliance with the Governor and Bexar County Executive Orders, we will be allowing no more than sixty (60) residents and one guest per day pass to be at the pool at the same time. Social distancing, temperature checks, health questionnaires, face coverings (when not in the pool) and personal sanitation requirements will all be required and enforced to enter or remain at the pool. The fees for entering or renting the pool has changed as follows:

- Day Pass \$5.00
- Resident Guest Pass: \$5.00
- Splash Pass – 10 Pool Visits
 - Youth fee, ages 1-12 years of age \$25.00
 - Adult, ages 13-54 years of age \$40.00
 - Seniors, ages 55 years of age or older \$15.00
- Party Fees – a 10 participant limit at all parties, unless CDC guidelines increase occupancy limits to current maximum of 25 persons.
 - Forest Oaks - Community Room: \$20.00 per person, \$250 maximum fee, with \$5.00 for each additional person, \$50.00 reservation fee
 - Forest Oaks – The Hill: \$15.00 per person, \$150 maximum fee, for 2 hours, \$25.00 each additional hour, \$50.00 reservation fee
 - General Facility Use: \$10.00 per person, \$100 maximum fee, for 2 hours, \$25.00 each additional hour, \$50.00 reservation fee

Due to COVID requirements for cleaning and additional pool attendants, the Forest Oaks Pool hours will also change to the following:

- Tuesday-Sunday (Closed Mondays)
 - Seniors 10 am
 - Open swim 12-8 pm
- Pool open until end of August
- September open on weekends

We are very happy to be reopened and further serving the great citizens of Leon Valley. That said, the businesses and your City leadership need your help if you want us to stay open. Please follow the Governor and Bexar County Executive Orders, as well as all CDC Guidelines so that COVID infections and deaths are abated. We cannot do this alone; WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please let us know how we can be of further assistance. In Your Service, Chief Salvaggio