



**BRAZOS COUNTY
BRYAN, TEXAS**

Duane Peters
Office of the County Judge
200 S. Texas Ave., Ste. 332
Bryan, TX 77803

Phone: (979) 361-4102
Fax: (979) 361-4503
Email: dpeters@co.brazos.tx.us

**ORDER NUMBER 1
UNDER
DECLARATION OF LOCAL DISASTER FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, beginning in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated COVID-19 was detected in mainland China, and has since spread throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a worldwide pandemic on March 11, 2020; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 virus mainly spreads between people who are in close contact with one another through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation certifying that COVID-19 poses an imminent threat of disaster in the state and declaring a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Brazos County Judge declared a Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency for a 7 (seven) day period, stating that extraordinary measures must be taken to contain COVID-19 and prevent its spread throughout Brazos County, Texas;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, Brazos County Commissioners Court approved a 30 (thirty) day extension of the original 7 (seven) day original Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency, extending the Declaration through April 18, 2020, finding that an emergency still exists.

WHEREAS, there are now confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Brazos County and additional action must be taken in order to protect the Health and Welfare of it's citizens and employees.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE BRAZOS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT, BRAZOS COUNTY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That this ORDER NUMBER 1 Under Declaration of Local Disaster For Public Health Emergency be given prompt and general publicity and filed with the Brazos County Clerk.

SECTION 2. That all restaurants in Brazos County, Texas, including incorporated and unincorporated areas of Brazos County, are ordered to close as of 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 19, 2020, except restaurants may still provide take-out orders, deliver, drive through window service, and curbside pickup service.

SECTION 3. That all bars in the Brazos County, Texas, including incorporated and unincorporated are ordered to close as of 9:00 p.m., Thursday March 19, 2020.

SECTION 4. That public gatherings of more than 10 (ten) persons, in the Brazos County, Texas, incorporated and unincorporated are hereby prohibited as of 9:00 p.m., Thursday March 19, 2020. A “gathering” refers generally to a scheduled event or common endeavor where more than ten (10) persons are present in a confined space, room or area.

SECTION 5. That the restriction to public gatherings of more than 10 (ten) persons in Section 4 is not meant to be applied to grocery and retail stores such as pharmacies and is not meant to prevent Brazos County Citizens from obtaining essential goods and services. Stores and Businesses not covered by Section 4 of this order shall follow CDC Guidelines and place reasonable restrictions on customer access to confined spaces to limit customer contact and proximity to each other.

SECTION 6. That this order is in effect from 9:00 p.m., Thursday, March 19, 2020 and remains in effect as long as there is an active Declaration of Disaster in Brazos County or until modified or rescinded.

SECTION 7. In accordance with Texas Government Code §418.173, a person who knowingly or intentionally violates this order commits an offense, punishable by a fine up to \$1,000.00 or confinement in jail for a term that does not exceed 180 days.

SECTION 8. That this order hereby authorizes the use of all lawfully available enforcement tools.

SECTION 9. That this order shall take effect immediately from and after its issuance.

ORDERED this 19th day of March, 2020



Duane Peters, County Judge

Approved by phone

Commissioner Steve Aldrich

Precinct 1

Approved by phone

Commissioner Sammy Catalena

Precinct 2

Nancy F. Berry

Commissioner Nancy Berry

Precinct 3

Approved by phone

Commissioner Irma Cauley

Precinct 4

Karen McQueen
Attest: Karen McQueen, County Clerk

