



Office 903/236-8420

Fax 903/237-2699

101 E. Methvin, Suite 300

Longview, Texas 75601

BILL STOUTD
Gregg County Judge

PRESS RELEASE

County Judge Bill Stoutd has issued mandatory orders for residents to Shelter-at-Home for the next two (2) weeks, beginning Thursday, March 26, at 11:59 p.m., and lasting through Thursday, April 9, at 11:59 p.m., due to the threat of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Orders come after the announcement of 2 additional confirmed Gregg County cases on Wednesday, March 25, bringing the total to 3 confirmed cases. The mandatory directives come in the form of disaster declaration orders from Gregg County and the City of Longview.

As of Wednesday, March 25, at noon, Gregg County had 70 individuals tested for Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Gregg County. Of those, 27 tests were negative, 3 tests were confirmed positive, and 40 tests are still pending.

The number of confirmed cases in Gregg County and the surrounding area continues to rise. Testing availability is still very limited: health authorities believe that as more tests become obtainable, the number of cases will continue to increase.

As part of the Shelter-at-Home provisions, all individuals should shelter at their place of residence, except for essential activities and business. Additionally, to the extent individuals use shared indoor or outdoor space, they should maintain Social Distancing of at six (6) feet. Travel into and out of the County is still allowed to perform essential activities, operate essential businesses, or maintain essential governmental functions.

All Essential Businesses are strongly encouraged to remain open. However, even Essential Businesses are encouraged to determine essential staff necessary to operate and to send non-essential staff home. To the greatest extent feasible, Essential Businesses shall comply with Social Distancing Requirements. Essential Businesses include a variety of different types of businesses that provide essential goods and services for the community, such as healthcare, grocery stores, gas stations, hardware stores, banks, laundromats, transportation, media, construction, and several other detailed within the directive.

To assist with answering questions about the Coronavirus, the City of Longview has established a Coronavirus hotline at 903/237-1215. The hotline will be staffed from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., seven (7) days a week.