

NEWS RELEASE

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Gatherings limited to 50, City extends closures to limit potential for spread of COVID-19

ABILENE, Texas – Abilene Mayor Anthony Williams has issued a disaster declaration, effective a 8 p.m., Sunday, March 22, limiting the gathering of individuals in our community to 50. This action makes it a criminal offence to hold a gathering of 51 or more people, and will be in effect for 7 days, with the potential for extension.

When a case of COVID-19 is confirmed in Taylor County, Mayor Williams plans to limit gatherings to 10 or fewer individuals.

In a continued effort to proactively lessen the impact of the possible spread of COVID-19 in our community, the following municipal services are closed or are altering hours and operations:

- Abilene Public Libraries are closed until further notice, effective 3/23/20.
- Abilene Municipal Court is closed to the public until further notice, effective 3/23/20. Payments may be made online at www.abilenetx.gov or by calling 800.444.1187. If you have any questions, please call the Abilene Municipal Court at 325.676.6333.
- Abilene Customer Service Center/Water Utility office is closed to the public until further notice, effective 3/23/20. Payments may be made online at www.abilenetx.gov, through the drop box at 4595 South 1st Street or 555 Walnut, or by calling 325.676.6405 if you have any questions or concerns.
- Abilene City Hall is open to the public between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., effective 3/23/20. Residents may call City Hall at 325.676.6200 during business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, with questions or assistance with services.
- All Convention Center events are cancelled, effective 3/18/20 - 4/30/20.
- The Abilene Zoo is closed, effective 3/17/20 - 4/30/20.
- The Rose Park Senior Center is closed effective 3/18/20 - 4/30/20. Drive through meals are available to seniors 60 and over between the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Limit of two meals per car, strictly enforced.
- Recreation Centers are closed effective 3/18/20 - 4/30/20.
- Rentals for all Parks and Recreation facilities are cancelled effective immediately. Normal operations will resume May 1, 2020. All cancellations will be fully refunded.
- Spring recreation leagues are cancelled. Contact Community Services at 325-676-6217 or parksandrec@abilenetx.gov for a full refund or for more information.

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- Adaptive Recreation is closed effective 3/18/20 - 4/30/20. Current Adaptive Recreation program participants may receive a drive-through meal from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Rose Park Senior Center, with a limit of two meals per car, strictly enforced.
- Splash pads and the Adventure Cove will remain closed through 4/30/20.
- Safety City is closed through 5/31/20.
- All public tours of City facilities are cancelled effective immediately.
- Proclamations, presentations, school age pledgers, and awards and recognitions at Council Meetings are cancelled until further notice.

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