

City of Wharton



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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City of Wharton
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www.cityofwharton.com

City of Wharton Facility Closure Notice

Wharton, TX, March 24, 2020-

Effective Tuesday, March 24th, several City facilities will be closed or have limited access to the public. In an effort to adhere to the recommendations by Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), Governor Greg Abbott and City of Wharton Health Officer Dr. Jeffery Gubbels to help combat the spread COVID-19 (Corona Virus), the City Council approved the closure of City facilities. This closure will not affect City services such as Police, Fire or EMS but will help limit contact for the safety of the community and employees. In all departments the City Staff will be available to respond to questions or requests. Citizens are encouraged to conduct any City business online, by email or by phone.

Please see the list of department closures and contact information:

- City of Wharton City Hall – 979-532-2491
 - Closed to the public except for scheduled appointments.
 - Utility Bill Payments may be made online at:
<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/whartontx> or place in the drop box located at City Hall. Check or Money Order only. Payments will be monitored throughout the day.
 - New Utility Accounts:
 - Customers may call City Hall to reach a customer service representative to set up an appointment.
 - Trash services will remain the same.
 - Open Record Requests may be submitted online at: pfavors@cityofwharton.com.
 - Building Official Department appointments can be scheduled by calling 979-532-2491. All inspection services will remain the same and unchanged.

- Wharton Municipal Court – 979-532-4811 ext. 532 or 533
 - Closed to the public.
 - All Municipal Court cases will be reset.
 - Municipal Court payments may be made online at:
<https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/whartontx> or via a drop box inside the Wharton Police Department lobby.
 - Please call if you have a question on a particular case or ticket during normal business hours.

- City of Wharton Fire Administration Office – Non-Emergency 979-532-4811 ext. 400.
 - Emergencies dial 911.
 - Closed to the public.
- City of Wharton Civic Center – 979-532-4811 ext. 603
 - Closed to the public.
- Wharton Police Department – 979-532-3131
 - Lobby open 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
- City of Wharton Public Works Department – 979-532-2491
 - Building closed to the public. Calls for service will be answered.
- City Parks
 - Parks are open but contact sports are discouraged and CDC guidelines of no gathers of 10 or more people apply.
- Wharton Regional Airport – 979-532-3210
 - Closed to the General Public. Call with questions.

The City of Wharton wants to remind all citizens the importance of following the federal guidelines issued by the President and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the state's efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The following orders have been issued by Texas Governor Greg Abbott:

- Every person in Texas shall avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10 people.
- People shall avoid eating or drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms or massage parlors; provided, however, that the use of drive-thru, pickup, or delivery options is allowed and highly encouraged throughout the limited duration of this executive order.
- People shall not visit nursing homes or retirement or long-term care facilities unless to provide critical assistance.
- Schools shall temporarily close.

These orders are in effect on a statewide basis until 11:59 PM on April 3, 2020, subject to extension based on the status of COVID-19 in Texas and the recommendations of the CDC.

The City of Wharton continues to monitor the situation for the safety of all citizens and wants to remind residents to sign up today for the emergency alert system to keep you better informed of emergency situations, City related issues and notifications. The signup for the system can be found on the City of Wharton website at www.cityofwharton.com by clicking the Sign Up for Smart911 button. Please stay informed by tuning into local radio or local television stations.