



# COMAL COUNTY

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## PUBLIC INFORMATION

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### **County issues Stay Home/Work Safely guidance for local residents, businesses**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MARCH 27, 2020:**

*NEW BRAUNFELS* — Comal County Judge Sherman Krause on Thursday issued Stay Home/Work Safely guidance for reducing the threat posed by COVID-19.

The guidance includes a set of voluntary mitigation measures that encourages county residents stay home and avoid social gatherings. It also requests that local businesses implement social distancing measures, allow employees to work remotely and implement expanded and flexible leave policies.

“Water recreation businesses that have long been major economic generators in our community should voluntarily shut down,” the guidance reads, citing guidelines issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and executive orders issued by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. “Close-contact businesses like hair and nail salons, massage therapists and personal spas should voluntarily shut down until the threat has subsided.”

The guidance also includes additional steps the county will take if the voluntary measures “are inadequate because of insufficient voluntary response, or COVID-19 is a continued risk to the health and safety of the county.”

Those potential future measures include targeted mandatory orders affecting close-contact businesses, water recreation and parks, and community mandatory orders such as a shelter-in-place order affecting the unincorporated areas of Comal County.

“Comal County has faced many disasters with one common storyline – citizens do not wait for someone to do things for us or tell us what to do,” the guidance begins. “We step up and do what is right for our community, and the COVID-19 crisis is no different.”

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