



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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County to enforce governor's order, boat ramp rules

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NEW BRAUNFELS — Effective Thursday, Comal County will begin the process of enforcing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott's Stay at Home order requiring the closure of nonessential businesses – and will also more strictly enforce existing rules limiting the use of boat ramps at Canyon Lake.

The order, issued by the governor on Tuesday, requires all people in Texas to “minimize social gatherings” and maintain social distancing measures “except where necessary to provide or obtain essential services.”

The executive order specifically restricts “gyms, massage establishments, tattoo studios, piercing studios [and] cosmetology salons,” while maintaining restrictions on bars and limiting restaurants to carry-out or delivery service only. The order also restricts businesses who provide non-essential services as defined by the Texas Department of Emergency Management at www.tdem.texas.gov/essentialservices. It also allows for local officials to enforce the order.

“The governor's order goes into effect on Thursday, and our Sheriff's Office COVID-19 task force will begin educating businesses in the unincorporated areas of the county who are out of alignment with that order before moving to enforcement if necessary,” said County Judge Sherman Krause. “The only way we as a county can stop the spread of the coronavirus is to work together and take responsibility for staying home and maintaining the social distancing measures ordered by the governor.”

The county also will begin strictly enforcing already existing rules limiting use of county-owned boat ramps at Canyon Lake only to the launching and recovery of boats.

“Sheriff's deputies will be monitoring the boat ramps beginning this weekend to make sure they are only being used only to launch and recover boats, not as gathering places or as entry points to the lake shore,” Krause said.

The decision to begin enforcement came after collaboration between Krause, the Criminal District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office and the county's Office of Emergency Management.

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