



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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County confirms four new COVID-19 cases; Tax Office closed after possible exposure

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, JUNE 11, 2020:

NEW BRAUNFELS — Comal County on Wednesday confirmed four new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 141.

The cases are three New Braunfels residents in their 20s and 30s and a Fischer resident in their 20s. All four are home-isolating.

The county also confirmed two more recoveries from COVID-19, for a total of 115. With seven deaths, the county now has 37 active confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases, four of them hospitalized.

“As the number of cases in our community increases, we’re also hearing from some residents who received a positive test result from their physician or clinic, but whose result has not yet been reported to the Office of Public Health,” said Public Health Director Cheryl Fraser. “If you have been told you tested positive but have not been contacted by our office, please reach out and call us at 830-221-1150, so we can continue to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Comal County.”

As of Thursday morning, the Comal County Office of Public Health has received reports of the following test information:

- 3,909 tests conducted
- 141 confirmed cases
- 18 probable cases

The increase in positive cases, both confirmed and probable, has pushed Comal County’s positivity rate – the percentage of tests with a positive result – to 4.07%, its highest since May 21, although still below state and national averages.

Of the 159 confirmed and probable COVID-19 cases in Comal County, the location breakdown is:

- 88 (76 confirmed, 12 probable) from New Braunfels or the immediate area
- 16 confirmed from north of Canyon Lake
- 15 confirmed from the Bulverde area
- 11 (8 confirmed, 3 probable) from eastern Comal County
- 8 (7 confirmed, 1 probable) from south of Canyon Lake
- 8 (6 confirmed, 2 probable) confirmed from the Spring Branch area
- 3 confirmed from Garden Ridge
- 3 confirmed from central Comal County
- 3 confirmed from southwest Comal County
- 2 confirmed from Fair Oaks Ranch
- 1 confirmed from Schertz
- 1 confirmed from the Fischer area

Residents wishing to be tested for COVID-19 can call the county's dedicated hotline, 830-221-1120, between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

“Probable cases” is a category established by the Texas Department of State Health Services to describe those who do not have a positive PCR test for COVID-19, but meet two of the following three criteria:

- A positive quick-result antigen test
- Experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Close contact with a confirmed positive COVID-19 case

A probable case is treated identically to a confirmed case and counts toward the county's positivity rate and total case tally.

Tax Office exposure

The Comal County Tax Office is closed through at least the end of the week to deep clean and sanitize its building after an employee self-reported receiving a positive COVID-19 test Wednesday.

Exposure to the public is believed to be minimal because of social distancing and other protective measures taken to reduce direct contact between employees and customers; out of an abundance of caution, Tax Office satellites in Bulverde and Sattler also are closed until further notice.

“We appreciate everyone's patience as we continue to do everything we can to ensure the health and safety of our staff and customers,” said Tax Assessor-Collector Cathy Talcott. “In the meantime, most transactions with our office can be done at www.comalcountytaxoffice.net.”

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