



## WHARTON COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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#### **Wharton County, TX, Monday, May 4, 2020 1530 hours**

Wharton County Office of Emergency Management has received a report today from the Texas Department of State Health Services that we have **two (2)** new positive case of COVID-19, who are a child and mother of a known active case who are under quarantine in the East Bernard area. **Three (3)** new recoveries were also reported. The total who have tested positive for COVID-19 is now **forty-one (41)** in Wharton County and we have had **twenty-five (25)** reported cases who have recovered. Wharton County now has **sixteen (16)** active COVID-19 cases.

**Everyone doing their part to slow the spread has yielded low numbers for Wharton County, keep up the good work. THANK YOU!** Governor Abbott shared his plans for reopening Texas businesses on April 27, 2020, issuing a new executive order outlining opening schedules and restrictions. For the latest executive orders as well as Governor Abbott's more complete Open Texas Report visit [gov.texas.gov](http://gov.texas.gov). Also, we will be announcing an additional test site in Wharton County later this week. Stay tuned for details SOON!

Texas has a strategy in place to expand testing to 25,000 tests administered per day in early May.

Phase 1 of business reopenings began **as of MAY 1**. If data shows that the virus is being appropriately contained during the two weeks following, Phase 2 of business reopenings could begin as early as May 18.

Restaurants, retail shops, movie theaters, malls, museums, libraries and single-person offices are allowed to reopen May 1, but are limited to 25% maximum capacity. Capacity restrictions will expand to 50% as part of Phase 2. Interactive areas with hands-on activities, including children play areas, should remain closed.

Restaurants that are required to post the 51% sign required by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission, are not allowed to reopen dine-in services but may continue to provide to-go or delivery services.

Licensed healthcare professionals may return to work May 1 under the rules of their respective licensing agencies, and licensed hospitals must reserve 15% of their capacity for treating COVID-19 patients.

No-contact outdoor sports are allowed and non-contact sports are limited to groups of 4. Group size may be expanded as part of Phase 2.

**Remaining closed for now are:** Salons, barber shops, spas, gyms, bars, interactive amusement venues like bowling alleys and video arcades, tattoo and piercing studios, and massage establishments; Gov. Abbott anticipates potentially reopening them as part of Phase 2.

Thanks in advance for your patience over the next few days while we fine-tune our game plan and make sure everyone is in the loop.

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Wharton County OEM will provide updates at <http://www.co.wharton.tx.us/> and on facebook