

City of Wharton

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Governor Greg Abbott Orders Texans to Wear Masks in Public

Wharton, TX, July 2, 2020-

Texas Governor Greg Abbott has issued an order effective at 12:01 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, July 3rd, that Texans living in counties with 20 or more positive COVID-19 cases must wear a face covering over the nose and mouth while inside a business or other building open to the public, as well as outdoor public spaces, whenever social distancing from another person not in the same household; is not possible. There are exceptions, some of which include children who are younger than 10 years old, people with a medical condition that prevents them from wearing a mask, people who are eating or drinking and people who are exercising outdoors.

As of July 2nd, 2020, Wharton County has one hundred twenty-nine (129) active COVID-19 cases. This means that all citizens that do not follow this order could be given a verbal or written warning for a first-time violation of this face covering requirement, a person's second violation shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 and each subsequent violation shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 per violation.

The City of Wharton wants to encourage all residents to comply with the Governor's orders to help combat the spread of COVID-19 in our community. We ask that all citizens also continue to remain diligent in their social distancing and hygiene efforts. Continue to avoid crowds, stay home when you are sick, wash your hands frequently with warm, soapy water for at least 20 seconds, avoid people who are sick with respiratory symptoms and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

The Governor's orders can be found at: https://gov.texas.gov/uploads/files/press/EO-GA-26_expanded_opening_COVID-19.pdf

The City of Wharton will continue 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.

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