

May 19, 2020



A Message from Mayor Rios

On Monday, Governor Abbott announced some additional openings as part of the Open Texas program.

Governor Abbott's GA-18 allowed counties with five or few laboratory-confirmed coronavirus cases - and attestation provided by the County Judge - to allow restaurants dine-in, retail in-store, movie theaters, museum, and libraries to increase their capacity levels from 25% to 50%, which Aransas County Judge Burt Mills has done. All other businesses are at 25% capacity.

As of yesterday, the following could re-open following protocols and safe distance practices:

- Gyms/Exercise Facilities
- Manufacturers
- Office-Based Employers
- Childcare centers
- Massage and personal care services including tattoo studios
- Youth Clubs, such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and FFA

On Friday, May 22, the following may re-open following protocols and safe distance practices:

- Bars – 25%
- Wine tasting venues – 25%
- Bowling alleys, bingo halls, zoos, and aquariums – 25%

On Sunday, May 31, the following may re-open following protocols and safe distance practices:

- Youth sports, summer camps, and Vacation Bible Schools
- Professional Sports *without* spectators

We urge you to visit the web site to find out the specific requirements and criteria associated with each - <https://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas> - as there are limitations on activities and spectators.

Other News

1. The City of Rockport Staff has met with the Parks Board and the Pool Advisory Committee, who voted unanimously, to recommend keeping the parks and pool closed at this time. We will monitor events and re-visit as additional information is available.
2. The annual Memorial Day observance at Veterans Park has been cancelled due to social distancing concerns. However, for the 37th year the Rockport American GI Forum, VFW Post 3904 and Local American Legion will put American Flags on all the graves of our Fallen Heroes at the Rockport, Fulton and Lamar Cemeteries Thursday May 21st starting at 8am. Volunteers are welcome.
3. On May 12, the Governor's Strike Force tested over 100 residents through the drive-in facility at the Fulton Convention Center. The testing scheduled for May 16 was postponed.
4. We have been informed of two additional positive cases in Aransas County - an 80-year-old man and a 60-year-old man, who are both in quarantine. That brings the total number to four, with the previous two now recovered.
5. The Aransas County PPE Sewing Group is distributing FREE masks on Thursday, May 21 from 4 – 6 pm at the Fulton Convention Center. It is a drive-up distribution and masks will be brought to your car. Limit one per household member.
6. Government offices and banks will be closed on Monday, May 25.