



# Chambers County, Texas

## GA-29 Summary and FAQ

July 2, 2020

Below is a brief summary of Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order GA-29, as well as a FAQ to answer questions that may arise. This summary is provided for convenience only. Visit [gov.texas.gov](http://gov.texas.gov) to read the Governor's full Order.

Please note, pursuant to Section 418.016(a) of the Texas Government Code, the Governor has dictated that this order supersedes any orders issued by local officials in response to COVID-19. As such, Chambers County can only provide the information located in the Executive Order and cannot interpret the rules laid forth below.

1. Due to recent substantial increases in COVID-19 positive cases and increases in the hospitalizations resulting from COVID-19, further measures are needed to achieve the least restrictive means for reducing the growing spread of COVID-19 and to avoid a need for more extreme measures;
2. Requiring the use of face coverings is a targeted response that can combat the threat to public health using the least restrictive means, and if people follow this requirement, more extreme measures may be avoided;
3. Wearing a face covering is important to not only protect oneself, but also avoid unknowingly harming fellow Texans, especially given that many people who go into public may have COVID-19 without knowing it because they have no symptoms;
4. Effective at 12:01 p.m. on July 3, 2020 every person in Texas shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial entity or other space open to the public or when in an outdoor public space, wherever it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household; except for:
  - a. People younger than 10 years of age;
  - b. Any person with medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering;
  - c. Any person while the person is consuming food or drink, or is seated at a restaurant to eat or drink;
  - d. Any person while the person is (a) exercising outdoors or engaging in physical activity outdoors, and (b) maintaining a safe distance from other people not in the same household;
  - e. Any person while the person is driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver;
  - f. Any person obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the face covering for security surveillance, screening or a need for specific access to the face, such as while visiting a bank or while obtaining a personal care service involving the face, but only to the extent necessary for the temporary removal;

- g. Any person who is voting, assisting a voter, serving as a poll watcher or actively administering an election, but wearing a face covering is strongly encouraged
  - h. Any person who is actively providing or obtaining access to religious worship, but wearing a face covering is strongly encouraged
  - i. Any person while the person is giving a speech for a broadcast or to an audience.
5. Not exempted from this order is any person attending a protest or demonstration involving more than 10 people and who is not practicing safe social distancing from other people not in the same household.
  6. Following a verbal or written warning for a first-time violator, a person's second violation of this order shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250. Each subsequent violation shall be punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250 per person.

## GA-29 FAQ

1. Is there a Stay at Home Order for Chambers County?
  - a. No, there is no active Stay at Home Order for Chambers County residents.
2. Can I host or visit gatherings of more than 10 people in a private residence?
  - a. Outdoor events of 100 or less are permitted.
  - b. However, per GA-28, people should not be in groups larger than ten and should maintain at least six feet of social distancing from those not in their group.
  - c. Visit the DSHS website for more guidance:  
<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us/coronavirus/opentexas.aspx>
3. Are Chambers County Parks open to visitors?
  - a. Yes, Chambers County Parks are open to visitors.
4. Are playgrounds at Chambers County Parks open to the public?
  - a. Yes, they are now open.
5. Is the Chambers County Splash Pad at the Winnie-Stowell Park open to the public?
  - a. The Splash Pad is currently open at 50 percent occupancy. A total of 22 people are permitted to use the Splash Pad at one time.
6. Can convenience stores offer self-service items (i.e. fountain beverages)?
  - a. Yes, convenience stores may permitted customers to self-serve items like fountain beverages.
7. Can I go to services at my church?
  - a. Yes, church services are permitted and occupancy limits have been rescinded.
8. Do I have to wear a mask in Chambers County?
  - a. Per Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order GA-29 all every person in Texas shall wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial entity or other space open to the public or when in an outdoor public space, wherever it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household.
9. Can COVID-19 be transmitted through mosquitos or ticks?
  - a. No, mosquitos and ticks are not carriers for COVID-19.
10. Are employees or contractors counted toward the occupancy limitations listed in Executive Orders?
  - a. No, employees and paid contractors are not included in occupancy limits, except in offices and manufacturing facilities.

11. Is there a fine for not wearing a mask in Chambers County?
  - a. Yes, per Governor Greg Abbott, failure to wear a mask is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$250.
  
12. Where should I report people who violate this order?
  - a. Violators should be reported to the Chambers County Sheriff's Office at 409-267-2500.