

Matagorda County Emergency Operation Center Press Release

May 11, 2020 / 1200 hours / (Noon)

For Immediate Release:

The MCHD officials are again reporting **no new cases of COVID-19**. The last reported positive case was May 1st. This is a good trend, but we must continue to take this virus seriously. We must follow the guidelines from the CDC and DSHS.

Today the Palacios Community Medical Center reported 18 negative cases with 1 pending cases.

The State sponsored drive-thru COVID-19 test site that was conducted on May 7, 2020 in Matagorda County reported testing 49 people.

We expect all drive-up test results to be available before Friday, May 15, 2020.

These numbers will be combined and included in daily totals just like all test site information in Matagorda County is combined and reported.

Our county total is 64 positive cases, of which 34 are recovered and 5 have passed away. Matagorda County's number of active cases is now 25.

For a dashboard of all positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in Matagorda County or if you would like more information on the cases please visit:

<https://www.matagordaregional.org/covid19>

The Communities where we have positive COVID-19 cases remains the same:

Bay City, Wadsworth, Palacios, Matagorda, Van Vleck, and Blessing.

With many of our local businesses re-opening we are pleased to share a quote from a local business owner.

Bart Stanley owner of Stanley's store in the township of Matagorda, said "We've had no problem finding protective wear for our employees. People are anxious to return to the normal way of life down here. Since the beach reopening we've seen good sales, lots of customers want to bbq, fish, and relax."

CHECKLIST FOR RETAILERS

Non-essential retailers may operate up to 25% of the total listed occupancy. In addition, non-essential retailers may operate through pickup, delivery by mail, or delivery to the customer's doorstep. Shopping malls may operate at up to 25% of the total listed occupancy of the shopping mall, but shopping mall food court dining areas, play areas, and interactive displays and settings must remain closed. Employees and contractors of the retailer or shopping mall are not counted towards the 25% occupancy limitation.

The following are the minimum recommended health protocols for all retailers choosing to operate in Texas.

Retailers may adopt additional protocols consistent with their specific needs and circumstances to help protect the health and safety of all employees, contractors, and customers.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread to others by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. Even if an infected person is only mildly ill, the people they spread it to may become seriously ill or even die, especially if that person is 65 or older with pre-existing health conditions that place them at higher risk.

Because of the hidden nature of this threat, everyone should rigorously follow the practices specified in these protocols, all of which facilitate a safe and measured reopening of Texas. The virus that causes COVID-19 is still circulating in our communities. We should continue to observe practices that protect everyone, including those who are most vulnerable.

Please note, public health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. Retailers should stay informed and take actions based on common sense and wise judgment that will protect health and support economic revitalization. Retailers should also be mindful of federal and state employment and disability laws, workplace safety standards, and accessibility standards to address the needs of both workers and customers