



Jeff Davis County Statement on COVID-19
March 18, 2020

Jeff Davis County would like to continue to reassure our citizens and visitors that we are monitoring the ongoing COVID-19 situation. There are currently no known cases of COVID-19 in the Trans-Pecos. We are being briefed by local, regional, state and national health authorities regularly, and will coordinate and cooperate with those authorities as needed. The County Judge and EMC met with local leaders this morning and are continuing to monitor our current situation and make future plans. In light of information we have gathered, we plan to issue a Declaration of Local Disaster Due to Public Health Emergency and will post this information as soon as possible. Should any additional actions become necessary we will respond quickly and appropriately.

Please consult with our local media outlets to provide information. The Big Bend Sentinel, Jeff Davis County Mountain Dispatch and Marfa Public Radio are all providing timely information.

The CDC site at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> is also updated constantly. Other helpful resources include:

www.dshs.state.us.us/coronavirus/

https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf (Important information regarding the "15 Days to Slow the Spread")

<https://fordavis.com/listing/covid-19-updates/>

Please also visit the county website: <http://www.co.jeff-davis.tx.us/> for more information under the Public Information tab.

And, our Reverse 911 system will continue to provide updates as soon as possible. If you are not a member, please visit the following link for more information on how to participate. <https://1012012399.bbcportal.com/> This link is also available on the County website.

For now we simply ask that everyone follow the guidelines that have been widely distributed, and we ask our businesses to take extra precautions to help protect the public:

- Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.
- If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, then throw the tissue away. Cough into your elbow if no tissue is handy.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



- Disinfect surfaces, buttons, handles, knobs, and other places touched often.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid groups of 10 or more people who will be in close contact.
- Contact your medical provider as soon as possible if you have any symptoms or have traveled to a high-risk area.
- If possible avoid travel to high-risk areas.
- Avoid contact with elderly or otherwise immunized compromised individuals.
- Restaurant owners are encouraged to limit spacing or consider take-out or delivery options only. Hotels should consider current bookings and advise travelers about local conditions and closures.
- If you have any symptoms, try to limit as much public contact as possible.
- Continue to monitor the websites above and follow any updates on health, hygiene and safety protocols.

DSHS continues to recommend that you practice social distancing. This involves staying away from other people to avoid catching or spreading illness. It essentially means avoiding crowds and minimizing physical contact. This could mean avoiding concerts or weddings, declining a handshake, and/or staying at least six feet away from others.

We continue to ask that people refrain from exhausting the limited resources of our small local grocery stores. The supply chain in far west Texas is not like other areas. Restocking takes time. Buy what you need for normal life but please do not "panic buy".

Thank you for your patience and know that your Jeff Davis County government is here to serve you. If you have any questions, please let us know.