



RONALD E. INGRAM
Hardeman County Judge

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OCTOBER 6, 2020

Citizens of Hardeman County:

Today my office received the current number of active COVID-19 cases in our county. There were multiple positive tests reported today which brings our total number of active cases well above the 20 count limit. Therefore, as per Governor Abbott's Executive Order GA-29, the county no longer falls under the exemption for face coverings. The governor's order states all counties which are unable to affirmatively opt out of the face covering requirement shall: "wear a face covering over the nose and mouth when inside a commercial entity or other building or space open to the public or when in an outdoor public space, wherever it is not feasible to maintain 6' of social distancing from another person not in the same household." Clear face shields are not considered a mask. Most importantly if you don't feel well, stay home. The occupancy rate of businesses will remain at 75%.

EXCEPTIONS to this requirement are as follows


- *Any person younger than 10 years of age
- *Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering
- *Any person consuming food or drink or seated at a restaurant to eat or drink
- *Any person exercising outdoors or engaging in physical activity outdoors while maintaining safe distance for other not in the same household
- *Any person driving alone or with passengers who are part of the same household as the driver
- *Any person obtaining a service which requires temporary removal of the face covering for security surveillance, screening, or a need for specific access to the face such as visiting a bank or while obtaining a personal care service involving the face, but only to the extent necessary for the temporary removal
- *Any person in a swimming pool lake or similar body of water
- *Any person voting, assisting a voter, serving as a poll watcher, or actively administering an election (wearing a face covering is strongly recommended)
- *Any person providing or obtaining access to religious worship (wearing a face covering is strongly recommended)
- *Any person giving a speech or a broadcast or to an audience

When our count drops below 20 and remains there for 30 days, I can apply for attestation again. Until that time, we will follow the Governor's Executive Orders.

I will continue to stay in daily contact with our emergency management coordinator and county health officer. Please continue to be vigilant, responsible, and use common sense regarding your health, your family's health, and the health of you neighbors. I would encourage you to read the Executive Orders and Proclamations which can be found at gov.texas.gov/opentexas. I will continue to keep you updated as I receive orders or any information.

To help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus, including COVID-19

- Wash hands often for 20 seconds and encourage others to do the same.
- If no soap and water are available, use hand sanitizer with over 60% alcohol.
- Cover coughs and sneezed with a tissue, and throw the tissue away.
- 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.
- Practice social distancing. This includes avoiding crowds and minimizing physical contact

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Ingram", written over a horizontal line.

Ronald Ingram

Hardeman County Judge