

News from Plaquemines Parish Government

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PLAQUEMINES PARISH AIMS TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

HOLDING STATEMENT

The Plaquemines Parish Government is monitoring COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Residents are asked to monitor local media for more information as it becomes available. The public is advised to take regular CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) precautions & protective measures at this time.

Plaquemines Parish officials continue to closely monitor this outbreak and are in close communication with the CDC and the Louisiana Department of Public Health, along with other local, regional and national emergency service agencies and partners.

As a response to the Governor's announcement, Plaquemines Parish officials are taking the following proactive measures to ensure the health and safety of Parish employees and the general public:

- Schools will be closed beginning Monday, March 16, 2020, until April 9, 2020, by proclamation of Governor Edwards. Schools will continue to be closed through April 17, 2020, for Spring Break. Students will return to school on Monday, April 20, 2020.
- All Plaquemines Parish Recreation activities have been postponed, until further notice.
- Council on Aging Centers will be closed Monday, March 16th thru Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Homebound meals will still be delivered.
- The following events have been postponed, until further notice; Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office Seniors and Law-enforcement Together (SALT) seminar scheduled on Wednesday, March 18, has been postponed; Plaquemines Parish District Attorney:

Senior Citizen's Day, April 1st; Plaquemines Social Aid & Pleasure Club 1-Sack Challenge; Croatian American Culture & Food Experience; Ducks Unlimited Banquet

- There will be limited public access to all Plaquemines Parish Government facilities for essential functions to reduce the amount of face-to-face public interaction.
- All Plaquemines Parish Departments will continue operations of services during this period.
- All YMCA Locations throughout the parish will be closed, starting Monday, March 16, 2020 until further notice
- All Plaquemines Parish Libraries will be closed until further notice
- All ferry tolls (Belle Chasse/Scarsdale & Pointe a la Hache locations) will be suspended
- Division "A" Petit Jury set for Monday, April 6, 2020 is cancelled
- Plaquemines Parish Water Department will be suspending late fees and disconnections (On-line Payment and Drop Box locations will be open)

COVID-19 symptoms can include fever, cough and shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. The CDC believes at this time that symptoms may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure. People who think they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider immediately; the CDC recommends that you call ahead, which will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Stay calm.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water; if that is not possible, use hand sanitizer.
- Cover your mouth and nose with your sleeve or a tissue when you sneeze or cough.
- Avoid close contact (touching or shaking hands) with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes.
- Stay home when you are sick.

Any questions may be directed to the Plaquemines Parish Emergency Operations Center at (504) 297-5660 24 hours a day. Parish social media sites will be updated as necessary at

<https://www.facebook.com/plaqueminesgovernment/>

<https://www.facebook.com/PPOHSEP/>

<https://twitter.com/PlaqGov>

Please stay tuned to local media, for further announcements. To sign up for emergency text messages and e-mails, visit <https://bit.ly/33dsHzR>

For more information about the [#COVID19](#) outbreak can simply dial 211 or text the keyword **LACOVID** to 898-211 for the most current information about the outbreak as it becomes available.

The mission of Plaquemines Parish government is to provide high quality, efficient services to sustain and enhance the quality of life for all residents of Plaquemines Parish