



**Update regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and its impact on Wood County, Texas.
(This update is effective as of March 18, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.)**

The following statement is provided by Honorable Lucy Hebron, the Wood County Judge:

Our Fire Marshall/Emergency Management Coordinator/Flood Plain Administrator/County Safety Officer, Tully Davidson, issued a statement on March 13, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. This is an update to that statement and is being provided in an effort to keep the public fully informed as to the latest information about COVID-19 and its impact on Wood County operations.

Let me begin by letting you know that, as of the above-noted date and time, the Northeast Texas Public Health District (NET Health) has continued to report that there are zero (0) confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Wood County and zero (0) Persons Under Monitoring (PUM) in Wood County. We are grateful for that news and remain diligent in our efforts to monitor the situation.

With regard to an emergency declaration, there has been no such declaration issued for Wood County as of this date. As we continue to monitor the situation, we will reevaluate whether or not a declaration is needed.

As of this date, all County offices remain open and are operating with normal business hours; however, the following is a list of pertinent updates:

- If you have a court hearing pending before any of the courts (i.e. District Court, County Court, or Justice of the Peace), please be sure to contact your attorney, bondsman, or the Court to ascertain whether or not your hearing has been postponed. Each court has its own policy at this time with regard to the postponement of non-essential matters pending in the court.
- The Wood County Commissioners' Court will not be cancelling Commissioners' Court meetings at this time; however, we do encourage all attendees to practice social distancing, if at all possible.
- Inmate visitation and inmate programs at the Wood County Jail have been cancelled until further notice. Attorney visits are still permitted, but the procedures for the visits have changed (attorneys will be health-screened).
- All non-critical work-related travel by county employees is prohibited. All county employee work-related travel for training and conferences has been cancelled through April 1, 2020.

- County employees with fever or flu-like symptoms are being requested to stay home from work and are prohibited from returning to work until they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.
- Wood County employees have been directed to cancel all non-critical staff meetings and community meetings.

The following are the symptoms of COVID-19, which may appear 2-14 days after exposure:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If symptoms occur, please seek medical attention by one the following methods:

- Contact your primary care doctor. Notify them of your illness, and then, follow their instructions.
- Call your closest emergency room. Notify them of your illness, and then, follow their instructions.
- Call NET Health at (903) 535-0030. Notify them of your illness, and then, follow their instructions.
- Call 911 if you feel you are experiencing an emergency.

Wood County and NET Health encourage all East Texans to follow certain protocols:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Practice social distancing (i.e. keeping a distance of 6 ft. from other individuals);
- Avoid crowds of 10 or more individual;
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Cover coughs/sneezes with a tissue or your elbow, throw the tissue in the trash, and immediately wash your hands;
- Stay home when sick, except to seek medical care.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. For specific clarification and instructions, go to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html

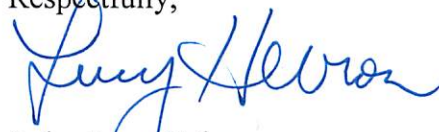
Some of these protocols may seem obvious, while some may seem inconvenient; however, it is very important that each individual do what they can to minimize the spread of this virus. I would like to also call upon each of us to show kindness during this challenging time. Please do not hoard supplies. Please check on the more vulnerable in our community.

Please see the previous statement issued by Tully Davidson. These statements are made for informational purposes only; no warranty is made as to the timeliness or accuracy of information. Refer to the following websites for up-to-date information:

- Center for Disease Control (CDC) - www.cdc.gov/COVID19
- Texas Department of State Health/Human Services (TDSHS) – www.dshs.texas.gov
- NET Health – <https://mynethealth.org>

Additional, updated statements will be made in the coming days and weeks. These updates will be posted on the website at www.mywoodcounty.com and will also be provided to the media.

Respectfully,



Judge Lucy Hebron

LMH/cc