



Guadalupe County Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Office

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The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a health alert regarding an outbreak of a novel Coronavirus in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China, which began in December 2019. The CDC confirmed the first case in the United States on Jan. 21, 2020.

Guadalupe County wants residents and visitors to know that the Guadalupe County Office of Emergency Management is communicating closely with the Texas Department of State Health Services Region 8, the medical community, and other partners to monitor and stay up-to-date on this evolving situation. At present, no cases of Coronavirus have been identified in Guadalupe County.

What to Know:

The Coronavirus causes a respiratory illness with fever and cough.

Coronaviruses are part of a large family of viruses, which can sometimes cause lower-respiratory tract illnesses, such as pneumonia or bronchitis.

Ways to Prevent Spread of Disease

CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Follow CDC's recommendations for using a facemask.
 - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
 - Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for [health workers](#) and [people who are taking care of someone in close settings](#) (at home or in a health care facility).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water.
- Call ahead before visiting your doctor or other medical providers
If you have a medical appointment, call the healthcare provider and tell them that you have or may have COVID-19. This will help the healthcare provider's office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

Useful Resources

- [Department of State Health Services \(DSHS\)](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [CDC Fact Sheet on coronavirus disease](#)