

**Palm Beach County Commission
District 4**

From the desk of
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Visit our Website

Rapid COVID-19 testing available

Rapid antigen testing is now available at the FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches for anyone 65 years of age or older, 18 years of age or younger, or anyone showing symptoms of COVID-19. Appointments are required. Registration can be done online at www.tourhealth.com or by calling (866) 416-6341. Online scheduling is preferred.

New Amazon distribution center

The county recently announced plans for a new one-million-square-foot Amazon distribution center. The new facility will bring hundreds of jobs in the areas of finance, human resources, security, IT, distribution, as well as packaging and shipping.

- The facility will be on 100 acres at 14490 Corporate Road North in the Palm Beach Park of Commerce.
- Completion date will be Fall of 2021.
- Site work is underway, and there will be hundreds of construction jobs.

The county has been working closely with the Business Development Board to finalize this project. One of the biggest factors in landing this project was the county's role in expedited permitting since the location is unincorporated which will also have a significant impact the county's property tax base.

Eviction mitigation assistance

The county has partnered with the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County and is offering free assistance and representation with landlord/tenant matters and past due payments through the CARES Act Rapid Response Eviction Assistance Project (RREAP). The program term is from August 1 through December 30, 2020.

The services include:

- pre-suit mediation between landlords and tenants
- legal advice regarding the eviction process
- referrals for rental assistance
- preparation of responses to an eviction lawsuit

- assistance in negotiating repayment plans, and
- court representation

For more information, click [here](#).

Vacation/short-term rentals permitted to open

Palm Beach County has submitted a safety plan to the state that has been approved for the opening of vacation and short-term rentals. For more information and compliance details, click [here](#).

Mosquito-borne illness alert

The Florida Department of Health-Palm Beach County has issued a mosquito-borne illness alert for the county as a second human case of West Nile virus has been confirmed.

In response, the Palm Beach County Mosquito Control Division has increased aerial spraying covering over 280,000 acres of areas west of Military Trail from western Boca Raton north to Wellington, the Acreage/Loxahatchee, Jupiter Farms, and the Glades communities.

Some preventative measures you can take are:

- Remove standing water (garbage cans, house gutters, buckets, coolers, old tires, other containers)
- Maintain swimming pools in good condition and appropriately chlorinated (empty plastic swimming pools when not in use)
- Repair screening on windows, doors, porches, and patios.

For more information on aerial spraying and mosquito control, you may contact the Aerial Spray Hotline at 561-642-8775 or click [here](#).

Hurricanes: be ready!

We are currently in the midst of a very active hurricane season.

This is a reminder that everyone should be prepared to survive on their own for at least 72 hours. Supplies sell out fast once a storm has been forecasted, ***so it is important to prepare ahead of time.***

Click [here](#) for the county's comprehensive guide to hurricane preparedness.

Emergency officials will be communicating with county residents using [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). My office will also be posting on my [Facebook](#) page.

Emergency App: There is a free emergency app, **PBC DART**, that provides vital information such as storm surge, evacuation areas, flood zones, shelter locations, grocery and building supply stores and gas stations with emergency generators.

Shelters: A hurricane evacuation shelter is a refuge of last resort, a place to go if you can't stay at home, with a relative, friend, co-worker or at a nearby hotel.

Palm Beach County and the school district manage public shelters. Shelters will operate under CDC guidelines (social distancing, facial coverings, etc.) and with basic first aid only.

Each person is **assigned 20 square feet of space** and must bring supplies such as bedding, blankets, inflatable mattresses, water, medicine, baby food, water, and toiletries. For more information on shelter supplies, click [here](#).

Census takers going door-to-door

The county's census response rate is only approximately 60 percent. If you are one of the 600,000 residents yet to respond, please take a minute to complete the census now.

- Respond online at: www.my2020census.gov.
- To respond by phone, call 800.330.2020.

Census takers are now visiting homes of residents throughout the county who have not responded yet.

How to identify a census taker:

- Check they have a valid photo ID badge (with a U.S. Department of Commerce watermark and an expiration date).
- They may carry bags and other equipment with the Census Bureau logo.
- If there are any doubts, you can contact the Census Bureau at 844-330-2020 to speak with a representative.

All census takers will be wearing masks and social distancing.

To avoid fraud, the Census Bureau will never ask for:

- your Social Security number
- your bank account or credit card numbers
- money or donations

Boca Raton Inlet bridge closure

The Boca Inlet Bridge will be closed beginning **Aug. 24** for a maximum of 60 days for painting operations by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Traffic will be detoured to Federal Highway via East Palmetto Park Road and Hillsboro Boulevard.

For more information on this project, please [click here](#).

Boca Helping Hands - volunteers needed

Boca Helping Hands is looking for volunteers to help feed the community. Shifts are available Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at their East Boca facility at 1500 NW 1st Court, Boca Raton, 33432, and their Boynton Beach location at the First Baptist Church at 301 N. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, 33435, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

Both locations have drive-through operations, and they are following CDC guidelines for social distancing, requiring masks, and taking daily temperature checks for all volunteers and staff.

If interested, or to find out more information, please [click here](#).

Convalescent plasma needed for COVID-19 patients

There is a critical need for convalescent plasma. People who have recovered from COVID-19 have antibodies that attack

the virus in their plasma that can help patients still fighting the coronavirus.

For more information and/or to donate, check with local hospitals such as [Baptist Health](#) (786-467-5400) and/or [OneBlood](#) (407-858-4939).

Contact tracers caller ID alert

The Health Department has issued an advisory that contact tracer's caller IDs are as follows:

FL DEPT OF HEALTH and/or
FL HEALTH DEPT.

If this ID appears on your phone, please answer since you are being contacted due to potential exposure to the virus.

Mask mailout to residential addresses

In an effort to help slow the community spread of COVID-19 and in conjunction with the mask mandate, the county is in the final stages of its mask mailout to all residential addresses countywide.

The emergency order mandating facial coverings remains in effect countywide. Click [here](#) for details on the order.

Hours of operation restricted for restaurants & other businesses

In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, the county has issued an emergency order limiting hours of operation for restaurants, amusement parks, kava, kratom and similar bars, and banquet halls requiring them to close from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m.

[Click here](#) for more information on this order.

Full Phase 1 openings in effect

The county remains in Full Phase One openings. As a reminder, the following businesses are **not currently allowed to open**: bars, nightclubs, adult entertainment establishments, strip clubs, hookah, cigar and other smoking bars and lounges, tanning salons, bowling alleys, arcades, playhouses, concert houses, movie theaters, auditoriums, indoor entertainment venues, tattoo parlors, and body piercing parlors.

Just recently, acupuncture venues and massage parlors were added to the "approved list" of Full Phase One openings.

For more details, click [here](#).

Covid app available



Combat COVID App

STRONGER TOGETHER...

PROTECTING OUR BEAUTIFUL COMMUNITY

All CombatCOVID app users who have been in close proximity to a COVID-19 positive person will be notified by a push notification recommending they get tested immediately, without revealing anyone's personal identity. Suggested locations for testing are also provided.

Unlike other apps, CombatCOVID will never use GPS or location notification in its architecture. The app user's privacy and identity are protected. No names, email addresses, locations or personal identifying information is required. There is never any location or identity information acquired by CombatCOVID.

Your device's phone number is encrypted and never shared with anyone, including local health officials. All data and information about a device in close proximity to another device is ONLY stored on the device.

Additional county COVID-19 resources

Below is additional information on county COVID-19 programs and resources.

For updated information on state and federal programs please click [here](#).

Find the latest information about your specific zip code and cases on the [COVID-19 Dashboard](#).

Click [here](#) to view all Executive Orders.

Testing sites

Homebound Resident Testing

Residents eligible for the new testing option include homebound elderly or individuals with disabilities who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and cannot leave their homes to access one of the drive-thru or walk-up test collection sites.

Residents who believe they are eligible for the in-home testing option should call the Palm Beach County Emergency Information Center (EIC) at **561-712-6400** for a pre-qualifying assessment. The testing line is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Boca Raton at FAU

The drive-thru testing site is located at the FAU Tech Runway on the north end of the FAU campus. The address is 901 NW 35th Street, Boca Raton, 33431. Residents should enter the testing site from Spanish River Boulevard.

Appointments are required. To make an appointment, call 1-800-209-7919 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Testing is available to anyone over the age of 12, with or without COVID-19 symptoms.**

South County Civic Center

The drive-thru site at 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach, is by appointment only. Call 1-800-209-7919. Testing is available to anyone over the age of 12 with or without symptoms.

West Palm Beach at the FITTEAM Ballpark

Drive-thru testing is available by appointment only Tuesday through Saturday between 8 a.m. and noon. Call 561-642-

1000. **Any age, need not be symptomatic.** Antibody testing is also available by appointment only.

For complete list of over 60 testing sites
[Interactive Testing Map](#)

COVID Education and Compliance Team

The county's COVID Education Compliance Team (CECT) is working diligently on educating businesses and bringing them into compliance with state and local enforcement orders required by the governor.

For more information or to register a complaint, call 561-24COVID (561-242-6843), or email covidcompliance@pbcgov.org

As a reminder, the county is currently under the governor's Executive Order of Full Phase 1 openings.

Assistance for rent and utilities

The Palm Beach County Community Services Department (CSD) is helping residents who have experienced loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic receive funds for one-time rental and/or utility assistance . The funds are for applicants who reside in apartments, houses, townhouses, or mobile homes.

Assistance will be provided only for past-due rents and/or utilities. The due dates must be after March 1, 2020 and before December 30, 2020.

- Online application for all services including rent and utilities: www.pbcgov.com/OSCARSS
- Phone number for rent: 561-904-7900
- Phone number for utilities: 561-355-4792
- Phone number for seniors EHEAP: 561-355-4746

To learn more, visit www.pbcgov.com/communityservices.

Courts have temporarily suspended hearings on evictions, and a moratorium has been placed on utility shutoffs.

Limited extension of mortgage foreclosure and eviction relief until Sept. 1, 2020 by Gov. DeSantis.

FPL assistance

Trouble paying your FPL bill because of COVID? FPL pledges to continue working with you to avoid turning lights off for nonpayment -- always a last resort. Call 800.226.3545.

Food distribution

Food Finder Map

United Way has launched an [Interactive Food Finder map](#) to assist in locating food and hot meals throughout Palm Beach County.

Feeding South Florida

Feeding South Florida's calendar of food distribution is at www.feedingsouthflorida.org/covid19. These sites provide groceries in a drive-thru style. The list is updated daily.

School District Feeding Sites

Free food is available at 133 schools. [70 schools](#) have distribution on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and [63 schools](#) have distributions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. For the full list of School District and Community Feeding Sites visit: PalmBeachSchools.org/FeedingSites.

Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program

The Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) outreach has expanded. SNAP benefit sign-up is now available by appointment at four PBC Library locations. Please see the updated schedule below:

Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Hagen Ranch Road Branch
14350 Hagen Ranch Road
Delray Beach, FL 33446
Contact: James Vil, 561-517-7533

Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Main Library
3650 Summit Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33406
Contact: Mario Mendez, PBC Food Bank
561-670-2518 ext. 310

Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Glades Road Branch
20701 95th Ave. South
Boca Raton, FL 33434
Contact: Mario Mendez, 561-345-5085

Thursdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lantana Road Branch

4020 Lantana Road
Lake Worth, FL 33462
Contact: Mario Mendez, 561-345-5085

Clients must make an appointment by calling the numbers above. They can also email the food bank at Benefits@pbcfoodbank.org to schedule appointments or ask questions.

Libraries

The Palm Beach County Library System is now offering expanded Wi-Fi signals throughout the parking lots and remote printing services. For more details, click [here](#).

Library hours of operation are:

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

All locations are closed on Sunday.

(Hours vary for locations in the Glades and Tequesta. For details visit <http://www.pbclibrary.org/>).

The Bookmobile is running on a limited schedule. Virtual activities and programs are available through Zoom. For more information, click [here](#).

Senior assistance

For assistance with food, food stamps, testing sites and questions on Medicare or Medicaid, call the Aging and

Disability Resource Center (ADRC) at 1-866-684-5885
Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors who are in immediate crisis or need someone to talk to after hours, or are in a food crisis, are encouraged to call 211.

Aging and Disability Resource Center Helpline

Seniors 60+ are encouraged to call the ADRC Helpline 1(866) 684-5885, the gateway to services for seniors in need of meals, electric bill assistance, respite for the caregiver, adult day care, in-home services, personal care, food stamps (SNAP), extra help for prescription drugs, COVID-19 information and questions on Medicare or Medicaid.

Specially trained counselors are available to help in English, Spanish or Creole Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Seniors registered through the agency helpline and served by the Volen Center and Palm Beach County Division of Senior Services are able to receive food on a scheduled basis in a "drop and go" fashion without leaving their cars.

211 Helpline and Crisis Line

211 provides crisis support, suicide prevention, and assistance with available resources and services for people of all ages in multiple languages.

Dial 2-1-1 or text your zip code to 898211. 211 staff also responds to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-

273-8255 and the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990

211's Sunshine is a free program that provides a daily phone call with a friendly hello and well-being check for seniors who are feeling isolated and alone. The Sunshine program is for individuals 60 or older, or those who are housebound or disabled. Dial 2-1-1 or click [here](#).

Free, Confidential and Available 24/7

Palm Beach County Victims Services

The Palm Beach County Victim Services & Certified Rape Crisis Center helpline is available for information, options and support: 561-833-7273. Services are free, confidential and private.

CareerSource job seekers and employers

CareerSource, Palm Beach County's central career center at 3400 Belvedere Road in West Palm Beach, is open with limited services from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays.

Career centers in Delray Beach remain closed until further notice. The organization provides virtual services online, by email and phone to serve customers.

Job Seeker Services: Job search registration/assistance and access to computers, printers, phones and faxes are available on a limited basis for those without computer access or limited computer skills. A one-hour time limit for these services will be enforced due to capacity restrictions. Customers with access

to computers are encouraged to use them instead of coming to the center, and call or email if they require assistance.

Employer Services: Many businesses are ramping up to rehire staff as well as hire new candidates. The CareerSource Business Services staff connects employers with qualified candidates for job openings – at no cost.

For more information, visit www.careersourcepbcc.com [careersourcepbcc.com] or call 561.340.1060.