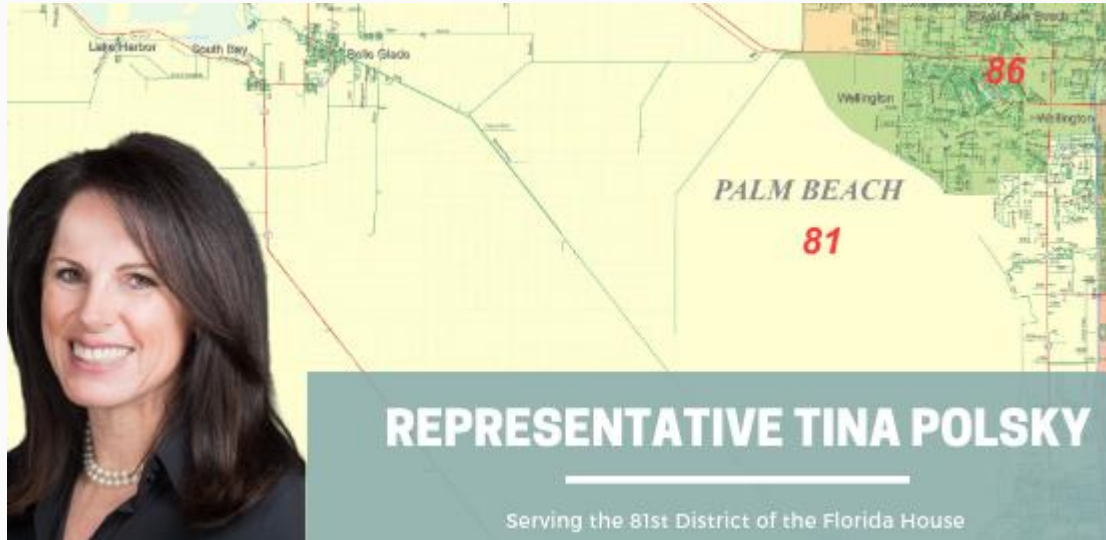


[View this email in your browser](#)



Dear

Friends,

SEE BELOW FOR MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

In an effort to keep you all safe and informed I have put together this COVID-19 Resource Guide. I am hopeful that this will provide you with the information that we receive from all government levels into one easy to digest place.

Although we are working remotely, my staff and I are here to help. Please reach out to us via email at Tina.Polsky@myfloridahouse.gov or call (561) 470-2086 as we are checking voicemails regularly.

For the most up to date information please follow me on Facebook, @RepPolsky81.

Stay Safe!

Representative Tina Polsky

Important Announcements

- **Palm Beach County's Mandatory Mask Ordinance is still in place.**

County Announcements

- As of October 7, the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, through its Community Services Department (CSD), has resumed the acceptance of the rental and utility applications under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.
 - Eligible residents who experienced a loss of income as a direct result of COVID-19 and who are at or below 140 percent Area Median Income may apply for rental and utility assistance. Additional eligibility requirements apply, and maximum benefits are as follows:
 - Rent up to \$10,000 in arrears beginning in March 2020
 - Electric, water and/or gas up to \$1,200 in arrears beginning in March 2020
 - To apply for rental and utility assistance, visit www.rentalassistancepbcc.org.
- Chief Judge Krista Marz announced that on October 14, October 27, November 4, and November 17, the 15th Circuit will summon jurors for service. The 15th Judicial Circuit remains in phase two as directed by the Florida Supreme Court.
- The County is working hard to make sure that our upcoming General Election is as safe as possible! With that in mind, we would like to see as many folks as possible register to vote by mail.
 - Early Voting begins on October 19 and ends on November 1, polling locations are open from 7 am-7 pm.
 - You can drop your vote-by-mail ballot off at any Early Voting polling location during this time.

- You can still request to vote-by-mail until October 24. Vote-by-mail ballots can be requested three different ways:
 - Online [Mail Ballot Request Service](#)
 - By Phone: (561) 656-6208
 - By Fax: (561) 656-6230
- The Palm Beach County COVID-19 Education Compliance team is comprised of representatives from state and local agencies including the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Palm Beach County Code Enforcement, Fire Rescue, the Florida Department of Health-Palm Beach County, and municipal police departments. Team members will proactively conduct spot inspections of local businesses and public venues, noting where masks are not being worn and/or social distancing is not being consistently practiced.
 - For more information or to contact the COVID Education Compliance Team or to notify the team about any violations please call **561-24COVID** (561-242-6843) or email covidcompliance@pbcgov.org

Reemployment Assistance Announcements

- **Disaster Unemployment Assistance:** Today, the Department announced Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) is available to Florida businesses and residents whose employment or self-employment was lost or interrupted as a direct result of Hurricane Sally. Read more [here](#).
- The Department found that users were experiencing technical errors while logging-in to the CONNECT system. This was an isolated incident that has been addressed, and the CONNECT system has resumed regular operating hours. The high volume of claims received in CONNECT this year has resulted for the need to reconfigure the system from time to time.

School District Announcements

- The School District will be hosting a series of Facebook Live events over the course of the next few weeks. They will be covering topics such as operations, mental health, academics, budget, and more. The events will be held on every other Thursday from 5:00-5:30 pm. The next scheduled event is on October 15, 2020.
- The School District has opened it's Going the Distance Together information Hotline, (561) 969-5840. The Hotline is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The information is available in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole.
- The School District has launched an online dashboard to keep parents and staff informed of confirmed Covid-19 cases identified among individuals who were recently on District property. Click here: [PalmBeachSchools.org/Covad Dashboard \[palmbeachschools.org\]](https://PalmBeachSchools.org/Covad-Dashboard)
 - The dashboard is updated nightly with confirmed cases by date, school, and the number of students and employees affected. You will also find a link to the Covid-19 dashboard on the District's main webpage.
 - The District has worked closely with the Florida Department of Health and the Health Care District of Palm Beach County to supply principals with a COVID-19 toolkit and provide support with protocols, contact tracing, and communication.
 - Parents will be notified directly by the Health Department if their children have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 on District property. Employees will be notified by Risk and Benefits Management if they have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case.
 - Very soon after that notification, a building-wide message will be sent to all parents and staff informing them of the case, and that if they didn't receive a letter from the Health Department or Risk Management it is very unlikely that they came in contact with the individual with the confirmed case.
 - For answers to frequently asked questions about the health and safety protocols in place in schools, including preventive steps and

the communications protocols during COVID, [click here](#) [\[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

Food Assistance Announcements

- The County's Food Assistance Program helps residents who may not be able to afford food due to the pandemic. The one-time benefit will offer pre-paid debit cards to residents which must be spent by December 30, 2020.
 - The amount of the benefit will be determined by the size of the household. Households with one or two members can receive up to \$400, those with three or four members up to \$800, and those with five or more members up to \$1,000.
 - Eligible residents may apply for food assistance at www.pbcgov.com/OSCARSS. A list of Frequently Asked Questions can be found [here](#). For more information, contact CSD's Contact Centre at (561) 355-4792.
 - Applicants must present evidence their household was adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic in order to qualify to receive the prepaid card. Supporting documentation must be provided to prove income eligibility, such as last a pay stub or last filed tax return, valid government-issued ID, and Social Security card.
- United Way has launched an [Interactive Food Finder map](#) to assist in locating food and hot meals across Palm Beach County.
- Feeding South Florida food distribution sites provide a drive-thru food distribution for anyone. You can find their calendar of Food Distributions at www.feedingsouthflorida.org/covid19 please note the list is updated daily, as dates, times, and locations may change.

Testing Updates

- **FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches:** Absolutely **anyone** is able to visit the testing site at the **Ballpark of the Palm Beaches**; you don't

need to be symptomatic to be tested, but you need to state that you have been in contact with someone with COVID-19. However, an appointment is necessary; to get an appointment please call **561-642-1000**.

- Antigen (rapid) Testing is now available at the FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches testing site. Appointments are required and tests are available for people 18 and under, 65 and over, and those who are symptomatic.
 - Appointments can be made online at [TourHealth.com](https://www.tourhealth.com) or via phone at (866) 416-6341. `
- **Lakeside Medical Center in Belle Glade:** This site offers drive-thru testing in addition to the walk-up service that is currently being offered. You do not need to be symptomatic but an appointment is **required**. Please call **561-642-1000** to schedule an appointment.
- **South County Civic Center Site:** The site will be open on Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is an increase in hours of operation and no appointments will be required.
- **FAU site:** Palm Beach County in cooperation with American Medical Response (AMR), Florida Division of Emergency Management, and Florida Atlantic University has opened a community-based site at FAU Tech Runway (901 NW 35 St, Boca Raton). Those coming for testing should enter from the Spanish River Boulevard. Appointments are required for testing--to make an appointment call 1-800-209-7919. Testing will be available to anyone 12 years or older, with or without COVID-19 symptoms. A proper photo ID will be required for testing.
- **The Village of Wellington:** The Village has partnered with Premier Family Health to provide FREE walk-up COVID testing for all western community residents age 12 and over. Health officials from Premier Family Health will conduct tests at the Wellington Community Center located at 12150 Forest Hill Blvd., Wellington, 33414. Testing will be available daily by appointment and is available for both symptomatic and asymptomatic residents. To make an appointment, call 561-753-2484.
- AnyLabTest Now, located at 5175 West Atlantic Ave, Suite D, Delray Beach, is now conducting COVID anti-body test for \$70.00. You will

receive your test results before you leave! Contact (561) 638-5227 for more information.

- NR Mobile will come to your home or office, anywhere in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties to conduct either a COVID Swab or COVID Anti-Body test for \$150.00. For more information contact (954) 823-8501.
- **Town Center Mall in Boca Raton:** The site is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week. The only requirements are 18 years and older and have a photo ID. The test administered will be done with nasal swabs. Town Center at Boca Raton Mall located at 6000 Glades Rd, Boca Raton, FL 33431.
- CVS has expanded its testing sites and now includes the following locations near District 81:
 - CVS Pharmacy, 520 S Federal Highway, Boca Raton, 33432
 - CVS Pharmacy, 8954 Lantana Rd, Lake Worth, 33467
 - CVS Pharmacy, 1690 S Federal Highway, Delray Beach, 33483
- Walmart has announced a partnership with Quest Diagnostics and the Department of Health and Human Services to bring new testing sites to South Florida. These drive-thru sites will be available at the pharmacy drive-thru windows at several Walmart Neighborhood Market Stores.
 - Appointments are required and can be made at www.MyQuestCOVIDTest.com. Any adult who meets CDC and state and local guidelines on who should be tested, including first responders, health care providers, and others with symptoms of COVID-19.
 - The closest site to District 81 will be located at the Walmart Neighborhood Market at 12700 S. Military Trail, Boynton Beach, FL 33436.
- Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, with the support of the Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management and the Florida Division of Emergency Management, **will begin the testing of homebound residents**. 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-up 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. Appointments for testing are subject to an assessment. The testing line is open from 8 AM to 5 PM Monday through Friday.
- The **Health Care District's C. L. Brumback Primary Care Clinics'** site at the Delray Beach clinic is located at 225 South Congress Avenue. Testing at this walk-up site is available by appointment Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon.
 - Residents are encouraged to call the Health Care District's Testing Hotline, 561-642-1000, to schedule appointments at all of its testing sites. Testing is open to individuals of any age who do not need to be symptomatic
- MD Now is currently offering COVID-19 testing at certain Palm Beach County locations M-F from 8 am-4 pm. Please note appointments are **REQUIRED** and MD Now accepts most major insurances - you can visit [MDNow.com](https://www.mdnow.com) for more information. The following locations are offering testing for people with MILD symptoms and first responders and/or healthcare workers without symptoms:
 - Boca Raton North, 1200 Yamato Road Ste. A7, Boca Raton
 - Call to schedule an appointment: 561-220-4011
 - Boynton Beach East, 1625 S. Federal Hwy., Boynton Beach, FL
 - Call to schedule an appointment: 561-220-4280
 - West Palm Beach/South Dixie, 2606 S Dixie Hwy., West Palm Beach
 - Call to schedule an appointment: 954-737-4351
 - Palm Beach Gardens East, 2534 PGA Blvd., Palm Beach Gardens
 - Call to schedule an appointment: 561-899-5978
- The Home Depot testing site in West Boca is now closed.

Other Important Announcements

- We are in the middle of Hurricane Season and it is important to BE PREPARED!
 - My office has compiled this [Hurricane Preparation Guide](#) that I hope will help you prepare for this storm and any future storms we may have. The guide is available in [Spanish](#) and [Creole](#) as well.
 - The county also has an Emergency Information Call number (561) 712-6400 that you can reach before, during, and after the storm.
- Are you having trouble paying your FPL bill because of COVID-19? You may qualify for local, state, and/or federal financial assistance, which has increased significantly due to the pandemic. FPL is here to help. All it takes is a phone call. FPL will work closely with you to do everything to avoid turning lights off for nonpayment, which is and has always been a last resort. Call FPL directly at 800-226-3545.
- The City of Boca Raton's Rental Assistance and Foreclosure Prevention Programs provide assistance to tenants that are delinquent on their rent payments or homeowners delinquent on their mortgage payments and association payments (if applicable), as well as any late fees, penalty fees, and/or court costs, for the period beginning March 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020. The maximum assistance is \$5,800 per household. To be eligible for assistance, applicants must reside within Boca Raton city limits and have a household income that does not exceed 120% of the area median income based on household size. Assistance may be provided for households that have experienced financial hardship, such as unemployment as a result of business closure, being laid off, furloughed, or having current employment hours reduced due to COVID-19. The City will accept online applications for both programs beginning October 1st through November 30, 2020, pending funding availability. Eligible applicants will be served on a first-come; served basis, and may be placed on a waitlist pending availability of funding. For more information or to apply, [click here](#).
- The City of Boca Raton opened has a Small Business Recovery Relief Grant program. The grant program is intended to provide eligible businesses who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with

one-time grants of up to \$5,000. For more information, or to apply, [click here](#).

You are NOT alone.

The COVID-19 crisis is a stressful and trying time for everyone. It's important to know these resources and share them with others.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-8255
suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Childhelp National Child Abuse Hotline

1-800-422-4453
www.childhelp.org

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-7233
thehotline.org

Crisis Text Line

text HOME to 741741
www.crisistextline.org

Palm Beach County Youth Services

Schedule a Telemental Health appointment by calling (561) 233-4460

211 Palm Beach and Treasure Coast Helpline

Dial 211 from your phone to speak with a trained mental health professional
211palmbeach.org

Office of State Representative Tim
Proudly serving District 8

-
- The 2020 Census is still underway! Please complete your form online, by phone, or by mail when your invitation to respond arrives.
 - Please note that if you are responding online, you must complete the census in one sitting, as you don't have the ability to save your progress. You can see [the questions the census asked](#). Even if you did not receive an invitation to respond from the Census Bureau, you may respond online or visit our [Contact Us](#) page to call our phone line.

- For more information about the response methods, please visit the following links.
 - [How to Respond by Phone](#)
 - [How to Respond by Mail](#)
 - [How to Respond to Online](#)
- The Census Bureau began mailing paper questionnaires in mid-April to homes that had not yet responded. If you have not already responded, please complete and [mail back](#) your form as soon as you receive it. And if you prefer, you still have the option of [responding online](#) or by phone instead.

Previous Announcements and Information

Department of Health

The Department of Health has launched a new [COVID-19 Case Dashboard](#), which will be updated twice daily to bring you the most up to date information on the spread of the virus.

What you need to know about COVID-19

Symptoms

Patients with confirmed COVID-19 infection have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

How does it spread

The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet). This is why it is important to practice social distancing. Even if

you yourself are not at risk, you may be a carrier, and staying home can help protect the most vulnerable in our community.

- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

Adults 60 years or older and those with underlying medical conditions are more likely to develop serious illness.

Testing Site Updates

- A new testing site in **SOUTH COUNTY** will be opening tomorrow, April 7. The testing site will be located at the South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach.
 - Persons wishing to be tested must be preapproved and have an **appointment** before coming to the drive-thru center. Beginning today, Cleveland Clinic will be conducting phone screenings to set appointments. The number is **561-804-0250**. The phone interview will cover the presence of symptoms, possible exposures, and risk factors.
- Please note, the testing site at the Ballpark of the Palm Beaches will likely be opening and closing several times throughout the weeks to come, as they can only schedule appointments based on the number of test kits they receive. If you are experiencing symptoms, have come in contact with someone who has tested positive, or have recently traveled to a COVID-19 hotspot, please call the hotline, (561) 642-1000, for a pre-screening and appointment.
 - Results from tests at the site are expected within five to six days.
 - Although this site is open, I want you to know that I am still concerned that there are no drive-thru testing sites in South Palm Beach County and will continue to work with the State and Federal emergency operations to bring such a site to District 81. Please know that our area is a high priority and we will continue to work on this.

- The new drive-thru testing site at the Ballpark of the Palm Beaches will begin testing on Tuesday, March 31. In order to be tested, you must be pre-screened and have an appointment-there will be NO walk-ins. You can contact the Health Care District of Palm Beach County testing line: (561) 642-1000 to be pre-screened and set up appointments.



Health Care District
PALM BEACH COUNTY



Palm Beach County COVID-19 Testing Site – FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches

- What:** A Palm Beach County COVID-19 drive thru testing site in collaboration with the County Commissioners, the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, the Florida National Guard, and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.
- Where:** FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches
5444 Haverhill Road
West Palm Beach, Florida. *Entry on Haverhill Road.*
- When:** Telephone registration and appointment scheduling will begin on Monday, March 30, 2020, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. On-site testing (swab sample collection only) will begin on Tuesday, April 6, 2020, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. *Preapproval and appointments are required.*
- Who:** Individuals requesting testing will be approved through telephone screening conducted by the Health Care District of Palm Beach County. Screening criteria will include presence of symptoms and risk factors.
- How:** Call Health Care District of Palm Beach County testing line: (561) 642-1000. A brief interview will be conducted to determine eligibility for COVID-19 testing. Callers approved for an appointment date and time slot for arrival at the testing site. Upon arrival at the testing site, the procedure will be conducted that will include verification of appointment time slot. Individuals without appointments will be turned away and directed to call the Health Care District of Palm Beach County to schedule an appointment. The check-in procedures and the testing (swab sample collection) will be conducted through an open window of the vehicle. No one will be permitted to leave the vehicle during the testing process.
- Results:** Testing results will be reported to the Health Care District of Palm Beach County, the patient and the Palm Beach County Health Department. Results can be expected within 24-48 hours. However, it may take longer. Individuals testing positive will be advised of isolation protocols and referred for medical care if necessary.
- Cost:** Free

- - Please note, the COVID-19 hotline is experiencing a very high call volume with extended wait times. Your call is important and they

are doing their best to get to each and every call as quickly as possible.

State Updates

- As the state has entered into Phase 3, the Governor has signed an Executive Order that will allow for an additional one-month period for local governments to conduct their meetings virtually. They must meet in person starting November 1, 2020.
- Governor DeSantis has permitted Executive Order 20-211, Eviction and Foreclosure Moratorium to expire. The State's mortgage foreclosure and eviction relief were permitted to expire to avoid any confusion over whether the CDC's evictions Order should apply in a particular circumstance. The CDC's evictions Order expires on December 31, 2020, unless extended.
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently enacted a nationwide residential evictions Order that provides federal eviction relief to persons who submit a valid Declaration to their landlord regarding their inability to pay rent.
 - A renter must complete the [Eviction Declaration](#) and submit to their landlord in order to stop the eviction process.
 - These persons are still required to pay rent and follow all the other terms of their lease and rules of the place where they live. These persons may also still be evicted for reasons other than not paying rent or making a housing payment. Executed declarations should not be returned to the Federal Government.
- The Governor has moved the entire state into Phase 3 of the Safe, Step-by-Step Reopening Plan. By moving the state into Phase 3, the governor has removed all of the restrictions on businesses. Businesses can now operate at full capacity.
- Governor Ron DeSantis issued an Executive Order that extends the deadline for students graduating in the 2019-20 school year to earn the

minimum qualifying SAT or ACT score to earn a Bright Futures scholarship until December 1, 2020. That means they can sign up to take the SAT or ACT between now and December 1, 2020, to qualify for Bright Futures. You can find the entire executive order [here](#).

- Governor DeSantis has extended the Foreclosure and Eviction Relief Orders to October 1, 2020.
- The Governor has extended the work requirements for TANF and SNAP recipients through the end of August 2020.
- The Governor has **EXTENDED the moratorium on evictions through August 1, 2020.**
- The Department of Business and Professional Regulations has set up an [online compliance form](#) to provide information regarding the compliance of restaurants and bars with the requirements of the Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida's Recovery.
- The Commissioner of Education has signed two executive orders.
 - [Voluntary Pre-K \(VPK\) – EO-04](#) builds on orders already done for early learning and provides greater flexibility for early learning stakeholders by:
 - Reducing the minimum number of summer instructional hours public schools and private VPK providers must provide from 300 to 200 hours
 - Authorizing a private school administrator who holds a valid certificate in educational leadership to satisfy the requirement for a prekindergarten director credential
 - Canceling all 2020 Summer VPK assessments
 - [Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program -- EO-05](#) seeks to provide students with pathways to meet eligibility requirements for different Bright Futures Scholarship awards by:
 - Providing families and students with needed flexibility to satisfy volunteer hour requirements
 - Extending the date a student must take the test and achieve required minimum test scores for the SAT, ACT, or any other allowable test that may determine eligibility –

giving students more time to meet the minimum score eligibility requirements of the scholarship

- Governor DeSantis has extended the foreclosure and eviction moratorium through July 1, 2020.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved Florida's request to implement the Pandemic EBT program across the state. Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT, will provide nutrition benefits to the families of more than 2 million children eligible for free or reduced-price school lunches, and is administered by the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF), in partnership with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS). Eligible families will automatically receive this supplemental benefit in the month of June, with funding made possible by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. Additional information will be available from DCF.
- Governor DeSantis announced that restrictions on juvenile activities and camps are lifted.
 - However, it is important that you reach out to your child's activity and/or camp to see what their plans for this summer are.
- **Starting Monday, May 18, all of Florida will be entering the full Phase one of the Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step Re-Opening Plan.**

FULL PHASE 1

Effective Monday, May 18, 2020

RESTAURANTS & FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

- ✓ May increase indoor capacity to 50% with proper social distancing
- ✓ Outdoor seating encouraged

RETAIL

- ✓ May operate up to 50% capacity indoors

MUSEUMS & LIBRARIES

- ✓ May operate up to 50% capacity if permitted by local governments

GYMS & FITNESS CENTERS

- ✓ May operate up to 50% capacity
- ✓ Self-sanitize machines and surfaces after use

AMUSEMENT PARKS

- ✓ May submit re-opening plan to the State

PROFESSIONAL SPORTS VENUES

- ✓ Professional sports teams are welcome in Florida
- ✓ Professional sports venues may open and operate for games, events and training

VACATION RENTALS

- ✓ Counties may seek approval to operate vacation rentals by submitting a written request and county vacation rental safety plan to the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation

ELECTIVE SURGICAL

- ✓ Elective surgical facility has adequate surge capacity to protect community from outbreaks in

BARBER SHOPS

- ✓ Barber shops, salons may operate with safety protocols

SCHOOLS

- ✓ Students continue learning

LONG-TERM CARE

- ✓ Visitation in long-term care prohibited for
- ✓ Hospitals required to have protocols before discharging patients to long-term care facilities
- ✓ Long-term care facilities may transfer COVID-19 patients if the facility is equipped with appropriate c

Safe. Sm



- Please note, Palm Beach County has additional restrictions.
 - Libraries remain closed
 - Updates have been made to the regulation of recreational activities, including but not limited to:
 - Doubles Tennis, Pickleball, and Raquetball are now allowed
 - Monitoring requirements for community pools have been revised to allow management to designate a pool monitor, which can be an HOA/COA board member, volunteer, etc, to ensure that CDC guidelines are being adhered to.
 - Basketball courts are now open.
 - Golf practice facilities are now open but players must be 10 feet apart
 - Dog parks, skate parks, and bicycle tracks are open but CDC recommendations must be followed.
- Also starting Monday, May 18 Palm Beach County will reopen all public, municipal and private beaches, including beach parks, with the following conditions and restrictions:
 - Beaches will be open between sunrise and sunset only.
 - Parties accessing the beaches shall follow CDC guidelines by limiting gatherings to no more than 10 persons and distancing themselves from other parties by six feet.
 - Beach operations at the county-owned South Inlet Park will follow restrictions for Boca Raton municipal beaches.
 - Please note, that Boca Raton municipal beaches are open, however, parking at the beaches will be CLOSED. You will need to walk up to the beach or be dropped off.
 - Please check with other municipalities regarding beach rules and regulations before visiting the beach.
- Governor DeSantis has extended the Foreclosure and Eviction moratorium through June 2, 2020 (Executive Order 20-121).

- Twenty percent of the Florida Legislature, including myself, submitted letters to the Secretary of State calling for a Special Session to help address some of the concerns during the COVID-19 crisis, including unemployment, health care, and voting. Yesterday was the final day to submit votes for or against the Special Session and unfortunately, 20 Senators and 60 Representatives voted against the Special Session. At this point the Legislature is not set to meet again until March 2021, however, a special session can still be called for by proclamation by the Governor or a joint proclamation of the Senate President and the Speaker of the House.
- Governor DeSantis has launched his Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step. Plan for Florida Recovery. While this plan doesn't make any major changes to life here in Palm Beach County I wanted to provide you with the details about Executive Order 20-112.
 - Outside of Miami Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties EO 20-112 will maintain limitations on the movements of people except for those businesses and services that are currently open and those businesses that re-open at 25% building occupancy.
 - Throughout the state, medical services including elective procedures, surgical centers, dentists, and other health care practitioners may fully re-open. As a condition of resuming elective procedures, hospitals will be required to assist nursing homes and long-term care facilities in their efforts to protect the vulnerable.
 - Airport screenings will be extended.
 - EO 20-112 still requires appropriate social distancing and limits groups to 10 people or fewer!
 - Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade Counties continue to work together and are attempting to coordinate where possible.
- Strategic Targeted Outreach Program (STOP) COVID-19 FRAUD is a public outreach campaign of critical information to the public related to COVID-19 fraud and criminal activity. The campaign provides facts, tips, and red flags and will guide the public on how to recognize potential fraud, protect themselves from it, and report it to authorities. The public is

encouraged to report potential fraud to COVID19FRAUD@DHS.GOV. For more information, please visit their [site](#).

- The Department of Children and Families has announced the extension of the increase of SNAP benefit amounts through the month of May. They have also implemented a six month recertification extension for clients who are scheduled to recertify their benefits in April and May.
 - DCF is also developing a plan to implement Pandemic EBT, a supplemental benefit for households whose children receive free and reduced lunch.
- Palm Beach County is working with the State Department of Health to identify and open different walk-up and pop-up testing sites throughout the county to help address testing needs throughout the county. As of this morning, no locations have been confirmed.
- The Department of Elder Affairs has partnered with the Florida Alzheimer's Association to bring the gift of music to socially isolated seniors and adults with dementia by distributing over 1,000 pre-loaded MP3 players to these Floridians and their caregivers.
- The Department of Revenue has created a [dedicated webpage](#) to provide information to child support customers who have questions about the child support offset for Economic Impact Payments under the CARES Act. Under federal law, these payments are subject to federal offset for persons who owe past-due support.
- The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) announced Florida will pilot a program for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients to purchase groceries online with the use of an EBT card. SNAP participants are automatically eligible to participate in this program and do not need to apply. This partnership with federal, state, and local partners will ensure Floridians can access nutritious food while also practicing social distancing and self-quarantining to reduce the spread of COVID-19. You can find more information about this new program [here](#).
- The Department of Children and Families has suspended all SNAP (food assistance) time limits and work requirements during the COVID-19 public health emergency. No one in Florida should be required to work 80

hours in order to get or keep their SNAP benefits for now. Time limits and work requirements info [here](#).

- Governor DeSantis has formed the Re-Open Florida Task Force Executive Committee, which is tasked with the re-opening of Florida's economy. We are expecting the Committee's first report on Friday.
- The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) will be providing daily updates on their efforts to address the challenges to Florida's Reemployment Assistance program in response to COVID-19. This includes a new [State Reemployment Assistance Claims Dashboard](#), which will be updated daily to reflect the total number of claims submitted, verified, processed, and paid.
 - Thus far, 1.6 million claims have been submitted to DEO. As of this morning, only 664,027 have been verified, 170,380 have been processed, and 94,909 have been paid.
- DEO has also crafted a 35-page resource guide, which you can find [here](#), and while it may not address your current concern it may help with any issues that may pop up throughout this process.
- Governor DeSantis has signed Executive Order 20-104, which suspends the biweekly “actively seeking work” reporting requirement by Reemployment Assistance claimants.
- The Department of Children and Families (DCF) has received notification that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) approved Florida’s waiver to permit the state to launch a pilot project that will allow families to purchase groceries online with their Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card. DCF will continue to work closely with the USDA and participating retailers to implement this project by April 21, 2020.
- The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles has issued an [Emergency Order](#) extending all Florida driver licenses, commercial driver licenses and identification cards that expire March 16 through April 30, until May 16, 2020.
- The Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA) has launched Project VITAL, to distribute tablets to residents of Assisted Living Facilities and Nursing

Homes in an effort to keep families connected and help those living in these facilities combat feelings of loneliness and isolation.

- DOEA is also working with the Local Area Agencies on Aging, State Emergency Personnel, Feeding Florida, the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association, and 4 Rivers to create a joint initiative to bring hot meals to Florida's senior citizens. Once this program is launched I will make sure to send all of the details to you.
- The State has partnered with the Army Corps of Engineers to build a temporary 450-bed hospital in the Miami Beach Convention Center. This hospital is scheduled to open on April 20.
- The Governor has signed a new executive order that will allow small businesses to collect monies from the Federal CARES Act without any state income taxes.
- The State has launched a Community Action Survey. The survey will assess what Floridians are doing to flatten the curve.
Visit www.StrongerThanC19.com to take the survey today.
- The Florida Department of Education has created a webpage to ensure teachers, students and parents have a one-stop-shop for their educational needs throughout this time of distance learning. This webpage, www.fldoe.org/em-response includes free resources including best practices for distance learning, frequently asked questions, and guidance ranging from topics including assessments, IEPs, instructional hours, and many more. It also includes resources in Spanish.
- Governor DeSantis has issued a statewide stay-at-home order, requiring everyone to limit their movements and personal interactions outside of their home to only those necessary to obtain or provide essential services or conduct essential activities.

30-DAY SAFER-AT-HOME EXECUTIVE ORDER

Effective: April 3rd at 12:01 am

1

SAFER AT HOME

- All persons in Florida shall limit leaving home to only essential activities and providing essential services.
- Senior citizens and individuals with underlying medical conditions shall stay at home and take all measures to limit risk of exposure.

2

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- All essential services are not affected.
- Businesses and organizations encouraged to provide delivery, curbside, or curbside service to the greatest extent practicable.
- Individuals are encouraged to work from home.

3

ESSENTIAL ACTIVITIES

- Attending religious services conducted in churches, synagogues, and houses of worship.
- Participating in recreational activities such as walking, biking, hiking, fishing, hunting, running, or swimming (consistent with social distancing guidelines).
- Taking care of pets.
- Caring for or otherwise assisting a loved one or friend.

A social gathering in public is **NOT** an essential activity.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

FLGOV.COM

- Please note, Palm Beach County still requires that all gatherings use social distancing practices and have less than 10 attendants. This rule is in place for religious organizations and the County recommends using other methods such as virtual worship services to follow these regulations.
- Governor DeSantis has ordered a 45-day moratorium on evictions and foreclosures throughout the state.
- Governor DeSantis has directed the Florida Department of Transportation to accelerate certain projects in Miami, Tampa, and Orlando areas by 4 to 6 weeks to help boost the economy.
- The Department of Economic Opportunity at the direction of the Governor has announced that it is waiving the requirement that unemployment applicants must wait a week to receive reemployment assistant benefits. This will be waived until May 8, 2020.
- The Governor has announced a "Safer at Home" policy for South Florida. This policy will remain in place until mid-April.
- All Florida public schools will remain closed through May 1.
- The Governor has issued an executive order allowing certain Florida Retirement System (FRS) employees who have retired to return to the workforce to assist in fighting COVID-19. This would allow law enforcement officers, first responders, emergency management, health and medical professionals, and other critical response personnel to return to work without having their retirement void or benefits suspended.
- Florida Department of Veterans Affairs (FDVA) is restricting visitor access to its State Veterans' Homes until further notice, with the exception of essential visitors, such as family members of those residents undergoing end-of-life care. FDVA is also temporarily suspending admissions to State Veterans' Homes.
- The state has secured an order of 2,000 rapid COVID-19 tests that will provide results in 45 minutes. They are also in discussions with Abbott Laboratories to secure their rapid test which would provide results in 5-15 minutes.

- New checkpoints are being set up along I-95 and I-10 to screen those individuals who are entering Florida from COVID-19 hotspots.
- Governor DeSantis has ordered that any travelers who arrive in the state from Louisiana must self-isolate for 14 days.
 - National Guard is now stationed at Pam Beach International Airport to help enforce this executive order and the previous EO regarding travelers from the Tri-State area.
- Governor DeSantis has ordered a 14-day moratorium on the operation of vacation rentals.
- Governor DeSantis directed the Department of Revenue to provide flexibility on tax due dates, such as sales tax, to assist those affected by COVID-19.
 - This includes the extension of the payment due date of property taxes to April 15.
- Florida Fish and Wildlife has been ordered to issue an Emergency Order which would enforce social distancing on Florida's Waterways.
- A thousand swabs are being provided to Palm Beach County, to help facilitate more testing.
- The Florida Department of Children and Families has waived work requirements for assistance programs providing food and shelter.
- Governor DeSantis has ordered that anyone traveling to the State of Florida from Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York must self-isolate for 14 days.
- Governor DeSantis and the State Surgeon General have issued a public health advisory to all people over 65 years of age, asking them to stay at home and to take other such measures necessary to limit their risk of exposure.
 - This public health advisory also includes those people with serious underlying medical conditions as described by the CDC.
- The Early Learning Coalition is open and connecting parents who are emergency response personnel and essential-business workers to open child care facilities and early learning centers. Contact them at (561) 514-3300.

- Governor DeSantis has prohibited any unnecessary, non-urgent medical procedures from being performed in order to free up necessary and important medical equipment.
- Please note, the State is currently working to expand the server capacity for the Reemployment Application website. If you are having difficulty applying online, reach out to my office and we will do our best to assist you. This issue is also affecting the Emergency Bridge Loan application, however, you can apply via the [FloridaDisaster site](#).
- Governor DeSantis has suspended statutes that require physical quorums for Local Government meetings to allow for conference calls or e-meetings, instead of in-person meetings.
- Department of Children and Families will be temporarily closing its storefronts and lobbies.
 - You can apply for assistance, check your status, or report changes via phone at (850) 300-4323 or go to [Access Florida's site](#).
- The Price Gouging Hotline is open! If you see that there is any gouging of prices please call 1-866-9NO-SCAM (1-866-966-7226) to report it.
- The Florida Department of Transportation has temporarily stopped the collection of cash payments on toll roads.
 - Vehicles without a SunPass will be charged via Toll-by-Plate and receive an invoice in the mail for the cost of their tolls.

Federal Updates

- My friend and our Congresswoman, Lois Frankel, has put together an excellent guide that can help you understand what financial relief you are entitled to during this pandemic! I recommend that everyone reads through [the guide](#) and make sure that you understand what you are entitled to and how to get it.
- The U.S. Small Business Administration South Florida District Office will host virtual office hours to answer questions about the SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program. Limited to 250 callers at one time. Participants may call at any time and are welcome to enter and exit at

will. Callers will be muted upon entry and will be taken in the order they are received. The virtual office hours are 11:00 A.M to 1:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

- Skype: <https://meet.lync.com/sba123/jfhein/DRJCSWGT> [Inks.gd]
 - Phone: (202) 765-1264; Conference ID - 143765659
- Last week, Congress approved an additional \$320 billion for the Payroll Protection Program (PPP). The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will resume accepting Payroll Protection Program (PPP) loan applications from approved lenders on behalf of any eligible borrower. For more information on the Paycheck Protection Program, visit: sba.gov/paycheckprotection.
 - Other available SBA Coronavirus Relief Resources for businesses can be found on the SBA website [here](#). The SBA loan applications can be found [here](#).
 - We also encourage you to reach out to your bank or lender for more information on commercial loan opportunities that may be available to you. Visit the [U.S. Treasury website](#) for a list of banks and lenders.
- The Centers for Disease Control has extended the guidelines for social distancing through the end of April.
- The deadline to be Real ID-compliant (star on the upper right-hand corner of your Driver's License) has been delayed by one year to October 1, 2021.
- The CARES Act has been passed by Congress and signed by the President. This package includes benefits for individuals, families, state and local governments, businesses, the healthcare system and much more.
 - You can find a guide to the CARES Act [here](#).
 - If you are interested about how the CARES Act helps business owners here is a [Small Business Owner's Guide to the CARES Act](#) as well as information about the [Small Business Paycheck Protection Program](#).
- Tax Day has been postponed 90 days to, July 15, 2020.

- A new federal testing site is now open to the public and those 65 and older who have symptoms of COVID-19 at the Hard Rock Stadium

Restaurant, Bars, and Other Businesses

Governor DeSantis has ordered that all **restaurants, bars, breweries, and other alcohol or food establishments with seating for more than 10 people close**. This does not apply to delivery, pick-up or take out services provided by these establishments

Movie theatres, concert halls and auditoriums, bowling alleys, arcades, gyms and fitness studios, and beaches have been CLOSED in Palm Beach and Broward Counties.

Feeding Sites

- Starting this week, Pollo Tropical restaurants will be treating kids to a free kids meal and bottle of water, between 11:00 am and 12:00 pm at locations throughout Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties.
 - The offer is valid at company-owned locations, not franchises
 - The child must be in the car to receive the Kids Meal
 - Drive-thru only
 - One free Kids Classic TropiChop will be given per child under the age of 12
- Beginning this week, School District feeding sites will serve meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays, rather than Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The number of meals distributed each week, however, will not decrease.
 - Beginning Thursday, April 30, the number of food distribution locations will increase to [51 schools across Palm Beach County](#). Meals will be distributed on Thursdays only from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parents or guardians who pick up meals on Thursday will be picking up a kit with two meals for six days totaling 12 meals for

each child. Thursday, there will also be [additional food distributions at select school sites](#).

- Starting on April 27, the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Summer Food Service Program in partnership with the Palm Beach County Library System will begin Pre-Summer Feeding at select locations throughout the County. The sites will be distributing seven days worth of meals to eligible children. Meal distribution will be available on Mondays or Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm or until all meal kits are distributed. The following locations in District 81 will distribute food on Wednesday:
 - Belle Glade Branch Library, 725 NW 4 ST, Belle Glade, 33430
 - Loula V York Branch Library, 525 Bacom Point Rd, Pahokee, 33476
 - Clarence E Anthony Branch Library, 375 SW 2 Ave, South Bay, 33493
- Until further notice, School Food Distributions will be open on Monday's, Wednesday's, and Friday's. Each student will receive two days' worth of meals will be provided on each day, and will include only lunch and dinner. Drivers, please remember, to pop your trunk or roll down a window when you arrive to minimize contact.
- Feeding South Florida sites are providing groceries in a drive-thru style distribution. This list is updated daily and dates, times, and locations may change. If you plan to attend a distribution, please review this calendar the day-of to confirm the schedule. Daily updates can be found here: www.feedingsouthflorida.org/covid19.
- The Palm Beach County School Food Distribution sites and rules have been changed. Students will no longer have to be present in order to receive a meal; a parent or guardian will need to bring the student's school ID, passport, library card or a photo of the adult with the child to receive the meals. Drivers are asked to open their trunks or the window of an unoccupied seat to have food placed in the vehicle to maintain a safe distance.
 - There are now 35 sites throughout the county, including:
 - Boca Raton High School

- Belle Glade Elementary School
- Benoist Farms Elementary School
- Congress Middle School
- Conniston Middle School
- Forest Park Elementary School
- Gove Elementary School
- Greenacres Elementary School
- Hammock Pointe Elementary
- Highland Elementary School
- Hope - Centennial Elementary School
- Howell Watkins Middle School
- Indian Pines Elementary School
- J.C. Mitchell Elementary School
- Jupiter Elementary School
- Lake Park Elementary School
- Lake Worth High School
- Lantana Middle School
- Lincoln Elementary School
- Loxahatchee Groves Elementary
- Northmore Elementary School
- Okeeheelee Middle School
- Osceola Creek Middle School
- Pahokee Elementary School
- Palm Beach Lakes High School
- Palm Springs Community Middle School
- Pine Jog Elementary School
- Rolling Green Elementary School
- Roosevelt Elementary School
- Rosenwald Elementary School
- Suncoast High School
- Tradewinds Middle School
- Village Academy
- Wellington High School
- Wynnebrook Elementary School

- Commissioner Nikki Fried has also activated the Summer Breakspots, to find a Summer Breakspot near you, you can use their [meal locator site](#).
- Boys and Girls Clubs throughout Palm Beach County will be providing lunch and a healthy snack to all children at their seven club locations, Monday-Friday from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.
 - Belle Glade Teen Center, 350 SW 10 St, Belle Glade, FL, 33430
 - Boca Raton Club, 300 Newcastle St, Boca Raton, FL, 33487
 - Florence De George Club, 4105 Pinewood Ave, West Palm Beach, FL, 33407
 - Marjorie S Fisher Club, 905 Drexel Rd, West Palm Beach, FL, 33413
 - Max M Fisher Club, 221 W 13 St, Riviera Beach, FL, 33404
 - Delray Beach Club, 1451 SW 7 St, Delray Beach, FL, 33444
 - Neil S Hirsch Club, 1080 Wellington Trace, Wellington, FL, 33414
- There will be a limited number of student grab and go food sites at the following schools during Spring Break (March 23 to March 27). See

below for the location nearest you:

Site Number	Site Name
2751	Benoist Farms Elementary School
1581	Congress Middle School
0541	Conniston Middle School
0831	Forest Park Elementary School
1241	Gove Elementary School
0631	Greenacres Elementary School
0671	Highland Elementary School
0012	Hope - Centennial Elementary School
1861	Indian Pines Elementary School
0071	Jupiter Elementary School
0141	Lake Park Elementary School
0691	Lake Worth High School
0761	Lantana Middle School
0211	Lincoln Elementary School
1901	Loxahatchee Groves Elementary
0271	Northmore Elementary School
2151	Okeeheelee Middle School
2821	Osceola Creek Middle School
1101	Pahokee Elementary School
1851	Palm Beach Lakes High School
0611	Palm Springs Community Middle School
0051	Pine Jog Elementary School
0341	Roosevelt Elementary School
1321	Rosenwald Elementary School
1681	Spanish River High School
0151	Suncoast High School
2781	Tradewinds Middle School
1701	Wellington Landings Middle School
1391	Wynnebrook Elementary School
Total Feeding Sites	29

Updates from the School District of Palm Beach County

- The School District of Palm Beach County has announced that they will be reopening brick and mortar schools for in-person instruction on Monday, September 21.
- The Florida Department of Education has approved the School District of Palm Beach County's school reopening plan. The County will continue distance learning for all students PreK-12 until Palm Beach County enters Phase 2.
 - As of today, the reopening of brick and mortar schools is still undetermined, we will make sure to keep you informed about the reopening of schools. Please check my [Facebook](#) for more information, as I will post the opening date as soon as it is available.
- The School District has announced that they will be bringing WiFi into targeted communities, including the Glades. They will be beefing up their internet infrastructure, working with municipalities, and providing WiFi Routers and extenders to students and their families. If you have internet connectivity or device needs and have not spoken to your child's school yet, the district said to get in touch with them as soon as possible.
 - You can learn more about preparing for the start of the 2020-21 school year in Palm Beach County [here](#).
- The School District of Palm Beach County, will not be starting school on the scheduled August 10 date, the School Board has not yet decided when the exact start date will be, but it appears that the start of the school year will be delayed for a couple of weeks. As soon as the District has made their decision on when the 2020-2021 school year is to begin I will let you know!
- Palm Beach County Schools has announced that students will not be returning to campus for the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.
 - The school district is working on procuring additional computers for students as well as ensuring that underserved areas have access to WiFi hotspots so students can continue with virtual school.

- The Palm Beach County School District has announced the following changes to Summer Programs:
 - All-District Summer Camps are canceled
 - ESY (Extended School Year) will take place virtually, accommodations will be provided to the best of the District's ability.
 - Credit and course-recovery options will be provided virtually.
 - Third grade Summer Reading Academy is canceled.
 - Beginning English Language Learners (ELL) students will continue with academic opportunities and resources will be mailed to their homes.
 - Enrichment programs for children of migrant workers will also be offered by virtual instruction, along with materials mailed to their homes.
 - Additional academic opportunities will be offered through individual elementary schools.
- The College Board has announced that they are planning on providing weekend SAT administrations every month through the end of the calendar year, beginning in August to make up for those examinations that were cancelled due to COVID-19. Students will be able to register for these exams beginning in May.
- The School District remains hopeful that in-person celebrations for graduates may be possible at a later time when the threat posed by COVID-19 is no longer a risk. However, the District is planning on conducting virtual graduations for each school, ceremonies will begin May 26 and run through June 5. You can visit palmbeachschools.org/graduation2020 to see the graduation schedule, ways to watch the graduations, and information about platforms that include virtual graduations watch parties.
- Public and Private Schools will remain closed throughout the rest of the school year. Students will continue to participate in distance learning for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year (May 29, 2020 is the last day of school in Palm Beach County).

- Beginning on March 25, Florida students will have access to free, live Advanced Placement (AP) review lessons. The College Board, who administers the examinations, is also working on developing a secure online exam for each course so that the students can still take their AP Exams.
- The School District of Palm Beach County has a dedicated Coronavirus website at PalmBeachSchools.org/Coronavirus. The School District also has a Coronavirus hotline available to answer school-related questions. Representatives are available to answer questions in English, Spanish and Haitian-Creole.
 - The hotline is open Monday through Friday, from 8 AM to 4 PM at 561.969.5840.
- The District has announced that they are planning on beginning remote learning as schools will be closed through April 15. They understand that not all families will have access to the technology needed to make this happen, so the District is asking families to fill out their Technology Survey so that they can help those families. If you have not yet completed this form, you can find it [here](#). Please submit the survey as soon as possible.

University Updates

- Florida Atlantic University has extended remote instruction until further notice. All students who are able to return home should return home and commencement ceremonies have been canceled.

Help for Seniors

- Below is the list of long term care facilities in Palm Beach County where residents or staff have been diagnosed with COVID-19. I was disappointed to learn of this list on Saturday evening. To me, there are a

lot more than the 100 facilities we were originally told the positive cases were limited to. For the full list, click [here](#).

1 AAA Assisted Living At Wellington
Abbey Delray Health Center
Addington Place At Wellington Green
Allegro
Arbor Oaks At Greenacres
Avante At Lake Worth, Inc.
Barrington Terrace At Boynton Beach
Boulevard Rehabilitation Center
Boynton Beach Rehabilitation Center
Brighton Gardens Of Boca Raton
Brookdale West Boynton Beach
Carlisle Palm Beach, The
Colonial Assisted Living At Boynton Beach, Fl
Cresthaven
Encore At Boca Raton Rehabilitation And Nursing Center, LLC, The
Fountainview
Gardens Court, The
Hamlin Place Of Boynton Beach
Heartland Health Care And Rehabilitation Center Of Boca Raton
Heartland Health Care Center - Boynton Beach
Manorcare Health Services

o

Manorcare Health Services - Boynton Beach
Medicana Nursing And Rehab Center
Morselife Health System
North Lake Care Center
Palm Garden Of West Palm Beach
Regents Park Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
Rehabilitation Center Of The Palm Beaches The
Renaissance Health And Rehabilitation
Sonata Boca Raton
Sonata Boynton Beach
Sonata Delray Beach
Stratford Court Of Boca Raton
Terraces Of Lake Worth Care Center
The Meridian At Boca Raton
Vi At Lakeside Village
Wood Lake Health And Rehabilitation Center

Federal, State, and Local officials understand that our seniors are at risk. This is why you can reach out to the Elder Helpline in your county if you are in need of some assistance with grocery shopping or other tasks. Below is a listing of the Telephone Numbers for each County's Elder Helpline.

Alachua 800-262-2243	Hamilton 800-262-2243	Nassau 888-242-4464
Baker 888-242-4464	Hardee 800-336-2226	Okaloosa 850-494-7100
Bay 866-467-4624	Hendry 239-652-6901	Okeechobee 866-684-5885
Bradford 800-262-2243	Hernando 800-262-2243	Orange 407-514-0019
Brevard 407-514-0019	Highlands 800-336-2226	Osceola 407-514-0019
Broward 954-745-9779	Hillsborough 800-336-2226	Palm Beach 561-214-8600
Calhoun 866-467-4624	Holmes 866-467-4624	Pasco <i>In-state</i> 800-861-8111 <i>Out-of-state</i> 727-217-8111
Charlotte 239-652-6901	Indian River 866-684-5885	Pinellas 727-217-8111
Citrus 800-262-2243	Jackson 866-467-4624	Polk 800-336-2226
Clay 888-242-4464	Jefferson 866-467-4624	Putnam 800-262-2243
Collier 239-652-6901	Lafayette 800-262-2243	Santa Rosa 850-494-7100
Columbia 800-262-2243	Lake 800-262-2243	Sarasota 239-652-6901
DeSoto 239-652-6901	Lee 239-652-6901	Seminole 407-514-0019
Dixie 800-262-2243	Leon 866-467-4624	St. Johns 888-242-4464
Duval 888-242-4464	Levy 800-262-2243	St. Lucie 866-684-5885
Escambia 850-494-7100	Liberty 866-467-4624	Sumter 800-262-2243
Flagler 888-242-4464	Madison 866-467-4624	Suwannee 800-262-2243
Franklin 866-467-4624	Manatee 800-336-2226	Taylor 866-467-4624
Gadsden 866-467-4624	Marion 800-262-2243	Union 800-262-2243
Gilchrist 800-262-2243	Martin 866-684-5885	Volusia 888-242-4464
Glades 239-652-6901	Miami-Dade 305-670-4357	Wakulla 866-467-4624
Gulf 866-467-4624	Monroe 305-670-4357	Walton 850-494-7100
		Washington 866-467-4624

Small Business Loans

The Florida Small Business Emergency Bridge Loan Program has been activated to support small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The bridge loan program is managed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and provides short-term, interest-free loans to small businesses that experienced economic injury from COVID-19.

The application period is open and will remain open through May 8, 2020. Interested businesses can visit the [Bridge Loan site](#) for more information.

Reemployment Assistance

- On a quarterly basis, pursuant to Federal guidance, DEO must determine whether or not individuals who are currently receiving Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) or Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) are instead eligible for state Reemployment Assistance benefits.
 - Claimants who are currently receiving PUA or PEUC may need to take specific actions on their claim when they log-in to CONNECT and request benefit payments **after October 1, 2020**, when the new quarter comes into effect.
 - In the coming days, those claimants will receive an additional notification with specific instructions regarding their claim. Below are step-by-step instructions on what these claimants will need to do to ensure there is no break in receiving benefits.
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PUA Step-by-Step Guide
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PUA Questionnaire Video
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PEUC Step-by-Step Guide
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PEUC Questionnaire Video
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change Fact Sheet

- The Department encourages all individuals to log-in to CONNECT and ensure their contact information is accurate and up-to-date.
- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity created a guide to assist claimants who recently exhausted their state Reemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits. Many of these individuals may be eligible for Extended Benefits, and they will receive the opportunity to apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). Please see the attached document or click [here](#) to view the guide for claimants who have exhausted their PEUC benefits and have been provided the opportunity to apply for PUA.
- Due to the unforeseen public health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19, multiple benefit programs have been developed to provide benefits for Floridians in need, including Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. Additionally, due to the drastic increase in the Florida unemployment rate in early 2020, Extended Benefits was triggered for the first time since 2009.
 - Extended Benefits is a federal program implemented by the state. Extended Benefits authorizes up-to an additional 6 weeks of benefits to eligible individuals who have exhausted Reemployment Assistance benefits during periods of high unemployment.
 - The Department is working diligently to stand up the Extended Benefits program as quickly as possible. The Department anticipates having the Extended Benefits application completed and ready for Floridians in December.
 - Floridians who have exhausted their state Reemployment Assistance and their Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits and may be eligible for Extended Benefits will receive the opportunity to apply for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. Individuals should review the application for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and apply to determine if they are eligible.

- Once Extended Benefits is available in the CONNECT system, the Department will do continued outreach to those individuals to ensure they are receiving benefits from the appropriate program.
- **Additional Weeks:** Each year, the number of weeks for state Reemployment Assistance is calculated based on the average unemployment rate for the most recent third calendar year quarter. After the September 2020 unemployment rate is released in October, the Department will be able to determine if additional weeks will be added to the current 12-week benefit duration for state Reemployment Assistance. Additional weeks would go into effect in January 2021, based on the average unemployment rate for the third calendar quarter of 2020 and will apply to any new state Reemployment Assistance claims filed in 2021.
- **Backdating:** The Department continues to work diligently to modify claim effective dates as quickly as possible. The Department has received thousands of requests from claimants to modify their filing effective date. The Department's process of backdating Reemployment Assistance claims includes thorough research to ensure the claimant's eligibility for backdating and to ensure the backdate does not negatively impact the claimant's claim.
 - Eligibility is based, in part, on the type of program the claimant is participating in, the reason why the claimant is requesting to have their claim effective date modified and the date the claimant applied for benefits.
 - It is important to note that not all claimants who request backdating are eligible to be backdated. Paying eligible Floridians the benefits they are owed continues to be our number one priority.
 - Claimants should check their emails and CONNECT inbox regularly to ensure they have not missed correspondence from the Department or the opportunity to request benefits for prior weeks.
- Governor Ron DeSantis announced the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has completed the necessary technology changes to begin

paying the Federal Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) program benefits to eligible Floridians.

- This program, authorized by President Trump's memorandum, provides additional benefits for individuals who are eligible for Reemployment Assistance for weeks of unemployment ending on or after Aug. 1, 2020.
 - The LWA program will provide an additional \$300 per week to eligible Reemployment Assistance claimants. To be eligible for this benefit, claimants must have a weekly benefit amount of at least \$100 in an approved Reemployment Assistance program and must certify that they are unemployed or partially unemployed due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19.
 - Eligible Floridians should anticipate receiving benefits from the LWA program this week. Payments will be provided to eligible Floridians for weeks ending August 1, August 8 and August 15, 2020.
- DEO highly recommends that Reemployment Assistance claimants select direct deposit as their means of receiving benefits to ensure payments are received as quickly as possible. This [video](#) and [guide](#) may be helpful.
- Governor Ron DeSantis has directed DEO to continue waiving the work search and work registration requirements for claimants for an additional 90 days. These requirements will continue to be waived through **December 5, 2020**.
- Additionally, the waiting week requirement will continue to be waived through **December 5, 2020**.
- The Department is working diligently to implement the necessary technology changes to ensure eligible Floridians receive the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) Program benefits as quickly as possible. The LWA program will allow Florida to offer an additional \$300 per week to eligible Reemployment Assistance claimants. To be eligible for this benefit, claimants must have a weekly benefit amount of at least \$100 in an approved Reemployment Assistance program and must certify that they

are unemployed or partially unemployed due to COVID-19. Payments will be retroactive to the week ending August 1, 2020.

- DEO highly recommends that Reemployment Assistance claimants select direct deposit as their means of receiving benefits to ensure payments are received as quickly as possible. This [video](#) and [guide](#) may be helpful.
- Governor Ron DeSantis announced that the Department will submit Florida's application to participate in the Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) Program.
 - This program, authorized by a memorandum from President Trump, provides additional temporary benefits for individuals who are eligible for Reemployment Assistance for weeks of unemployment ending on or after Aug. 1, 2020.
 - Pending federal approval, this will allow Florida to offer an additional \$300 per week to eligible Reemployment Assistance claimants. To be eligible for this benefit, claimants must be currently receiving at least \$100 in an approved Reemployment Assistance program weekly benefits and must certify that they are unemployed or partially unemployed due to the disruptions caused by COVID-19. Pending approval of Florida's application, payments will be retroactive to August 1, 2020.
 - The Department is currently preparing to implement the LWA program to ensure eligible Floridians receive the additional benefits as quickly as possible. More information can be found [here](#).
- DEO has released the following information regarding Unemployment Claims:
 - 99.8 percent of all eligible benefits requested prior to July 31, 2020 for state Reemployment Assistance, Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) have been paid to claimants. Additionally, 99.9 percent of all eligible benefits requested by claimants prior to July 31, 2020 have also received

their corresponding Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits for that week.

- If a claimant has not received benefits or all of the benefits they believe they are entitled to, they should:
 - Check that they have requested benefits;
 - Check that the weeks they are requesting are eligible weeks; and
 - Check that their account information in CONNECT is up-to-date and accurate.
- If a claimant needs additional assistance, they should call the Reemployment Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-833-FL-APPLY.
- The Department continues to work to modify claim effective dates as appropriate. The requests for these benefits are not included in this
- The Department has recently shared a video to help claimants understand claim messages and statuses in CONNECT. This video can be viewed [here](#).
- The Governor has extended the work search, work registration, and waiting week requirements for those receiving unemployment benefits. The waiver is scheduled to end on September 5, 2020.
- The Department has updated benefit payment statuses to reflect the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) payments in CONNECT. To better understand a claimant's Reemployment Assistance weekly benefit payment status, view the step by step guide [here](#).
- Pursuant to the CARES Act, the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) provides an extra \$600 weekly payment to all unemployment claimants and is 100% federally funded.
 - States do not have the ability to extend FPUC. The last payment will be on claims for the claim week ending Saturday, July 25, 2020, per federal guidelines.
 - Floridians who have filed claims and requested benefits before the week ending 7/25 will receive all the payments they are eligible for.

- Claimants currently receiving unemployment benefits will continue to receive their state weekly benefit amount as long as they are eligible.
- DEO has launched a partnership with ID.me., a trusted technology partner helping to keep claimant's personal information safe.
 - This site is for claimants who are currently locked out of their CONNECT account due to suspected fraud. Individuals who received an email from DEO are invited to click the link provided to submit additional documentation to unlock their CONNECT account.
- **For those recipients of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) or Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC):**
 - On a quarterly basis, pursuant to Federal guidance, DEO must determine if individuals who are currently receiving PUA or PEUC are ineligible for state Reemployment Assistance benefits. This routine task, often referred to as the Quarter Change, will determine if individuals could now be eligible for state Reemployment Assistance benefits.
 - The Quarter Change shifts the base period from January 2019 – December 2019 to April 2019 to March 2020.
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PUA Step-by-Step Guide
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PUA Questionnaire Video
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PEUC Step-by-Step Guide
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change PEUC Questionnaire Video
 - Click [here](#) for the Quarter Change Fact Sheet
- Starting **Monday, July 6**, the request to modify the date of your claim must be made by calling the Reemployment Assistance Customer Service center at 1-833-FL-APPLY (1-833-352-7759 and choose option 5).

- You may be eligible to modify the date of your claim to the date you originally attempted to apply for Reemployment Assistance only if you were unable to file a claim between the weeks of March 9, 2020 to April 9, 2020.
- The work search requirement waiver has been **EXTENDED through August 1, 2020.**
- The waiting week waiver has been **EXTENDED through August 1, 2020.**
- CareerSource of Palm Beach County will be holding a countywide virtual job fair on Thursday, June 25th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. CareerSource has over 2,800 open positions in Palm Beach County. To learn more please [click here](#).
- DEO has released an updated Resource Guide, to help those claimants who have applied for Unemployment Benefits. You can find the guide [here](#).
- CareerSource Palm Beach County's **Belle Glade Career Center** (1085 S. Main St., Belle Glade) will reopen with limited services from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays beginning Monday, June 15.
 - The West Palm Beach Career Center at 3400 Belvedere Road has been open since June 1, but the Delray Beach center remains closed until further notice. The organization also will continue to provide virtual services online and by email and phone to serve customers.
- The Governor has extended the Work Search Requirement waiver through July 4. Those Floridians seeking unemployment will not have to complete their work searches however, they will be prompted to complete the form each week, in order to recertify that they are still unemployed but willing to return to work if asked.
- The waiting week requirement waiver has been extended through August 1, 2020.
- If claimants, currently receiving Reemployment Assistance benefits, no longer wish to receive benefits, they do not need to claim their weeks, as payments will stop processing if weeks stop being claimed.

- The Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program application is now available. This program, offered through the federal CARES Act and administered by DEO, provides up to 13 weeks of benefits to a claimant who has exhausted their Reemployment Assistance benefits.
 - Floridians will need to apply for PEUC benefits once the balance of their current claim is exhausted. Floridians who have already exhausted their benefits or have a Reemployment Assistance claim that expired after July 1, 2019, will also be able to apply.
 - Through PEUC, Floridians may be eligible for up to \$275, in addition to the \$600 through Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), in weekly benefits. The additional \$600 through FPUC applies only to weeks of unemployment beginning March 29, 2020 and ends with the week ending July 25, 2020.
 - All claimants participating in PEUC will still be required to claim weeks on a biweekly basis, certifying that they remain unemployed and are able and available for work during the weeks they are receiving PEUC. The first week a claimant can be eligible for this benefit is the week beginning March 29, 2020, and the last payable week is the week ending December 26, 2020.
 - Unemployed Floridians who have exhausted their state Reemployment benefits will be notified with the next steps for PEUC.
 - Click [here](#) for PEUC Application Process.
 - Click [here](#) for PEUC Frequently Asked Questions.
 - Click [here](#) for COVID-19 Employment Scenarios.
- This week, DEO, in partnership with the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, launched a website to verify the identity of claimants who have been locked out of their CONNECT account, the online system for processing Reemployment Assistance claims.
 - Individuals who were locked out of their CONNECT account have been notified and provided a direct link to verify their information so they can access their account and have their Reemployment Assistance claims processed.

- CareerSource of Palm Beach county has launched the '*Help Is Here*' Web Portal to Help Job Seekers, Employers Access Recovery Assistance. As businesses across our region reopen, CareerSource Palm Beach County is launching a new '*Help Is Here*' web portal to assist job seekers and employers in their efforts to access assistance needed for recovery.
 - *Help Is Here* is CareerSource Palm Beach County's focused public and business outreach effort to:
 - Connect job seekers and businesses to critical resources for local, personalized help
 - Develop innovative solutions to generate job recovery/retention and business continuity, driving economic recovery
 - Provide links to state and federal assistance programs
 - Many businesses are ramping up to rehire staff as well as hire new candidates. The CareerSource Business Services staff connects employers with qualified candidates – at no cost. They can be contacted at www.careersourcepbc.com [\[careersourcepbc.com\]](http://careersourcepbc.com) or call 561.340.1060 and select option 3. CareerSource also is scheduling virtual hiring events.
 - Business continuity is being supported through grants that help employers train and upskill employees.
 - Job seekers can gain a competitive edge in searching for a new career by accessing *online virtual job readiness workshops*. There is no cost to view any of the workshops covering key skills needed when looking to get hired in today's labor market:
 - Creating a professional resume and cover letter
 - Building a LinkedIn profile and using social media in your job search
 - Handling online job applications
 - Conducting an effective job search and networking campaign
 - Preparing for job interviews
 - Online job, industry and employer research

- Following up after a job interview
- **On Wednesday, May 13, CONNECT will be beginning its nightly maintenance at 5:50 pm, instead of 8:00 pm.** The site will remain down until 8:00 am on Thursday, May 14, however, those wishing to submit **NEW CLAIMS** can still access the site to submit a new claim.
- To comply with federal law, weeks beginning **May 10, 2020**, claimants will be required to return to the CONNECT system every two weeks to request their benefits or “claim their weeks.” In doing so, claimants will confirm that they are still unemployed and acknowledge that they are able and available for work should it be offered. For more information, click [here](#).
 - Although claimants will have to confirm their unemployment every two weeks, claimants will not be required to complete the work search and work registration requirements. This waiver will remain in place until May 30, 2020.
- In a recent press release, DEO announced that claimants can now request to modify their claim filing effective date. Those who are interested in modifying their effective date should visit www.FloridaJobs.org and select the link “Request to Modify Claim (Application) Filing Effective Date. The form will allow you to modify the effective (or start date) of your benefits, as far back as March 9 for State Reemployment Benefits, or March 29 for Federal Unemployment Benefits.
 - Please note, Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (PUC) checks, \$600 benefit through the CARES Act, will only be distributed from March 29 and will only run as long as you have State Reemployment Benefits. For example, if you move your State Reemployment Benefit effective date to March 16, you would only receive 12 weeks of PUC checks, as the CARES Act went into effect on March 29.
- Over the weekend DEO announced that the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program, which provides unemployment benefits to those that may not otherwise be eligible under Florida’s state Reemployment Assistance program, including

independent contractors and individuals who are self-employed, is now open. Unemployed Floridians who have not yet completed an application for any benefit can apply at www.FloridaJobs.org/RAApplication and will be considered for all existing programs, including PUA.

- If you aren't sure whether you should apply for PUA check out this handy [PUA Flowchart](#) crafted by DEO. You can also consult this [FAQ](#) on PUA if you want to learn more about the program.
- If you are self-employed, an independent contractor, or a gig worker and were deemed ineligible but applied prior to April 4, 2020, you will have to reapply for benefits under PUA.
- For those who applied after April 5, 2020 and have been deemed ineligible for state reemployment assistance benefits, you should be receiving additional information from DEO.
- In an effort to process more payments over the weekend, DEO's CONNECT Unemployment website will be down for maintenance. **The website will reopen at 8:00 am on Monday, April 27.**
- I wanted to provide the most up-to-date information I have in applying for unemployment assistance as well as the tips we have learned. My office has compiled a great tip sheet, you can find it [here](#).
 - DEO will be conducting nightly maintenance to the unemployment CONNECT system to help with processing claims. CONNECT will be unavailable from 8 p.m. – 8 a.m. daily. Individuals who need to certify their weeks should sign-on to CONNECT between 8 a.m. and 7:59 p.m. during their scheduled reporting time to ensure their claims are processed on time. Importantly, this will not affect individuals that are filing a new claim. Individuals can file a new claim 24 hours a day, seven days per week.
- DEO has created a paper application as an additional avenue to start the application process. You can find it [here](#). I would suggest filling out the paper application while still trying electronic or phone applications. This way you can cover all of the bases. If you are unable to print your own copy, you can pick up a copy of the application at the following locations:
 - Outside of my Boca Raton office, 8177 Glades Road, Suite 209, Boca Raton, 33428

- Certain FedEx Locations throughout the county ([see list](#))
 - These locations will also mail the completed applications for free
 - Outside of certain Palm Beach County Library locations ([see list](#))
- Here are some updates on what DEO is doing to improve access to Reemployment Assistance, however, please note there will likely still be a significant backlog:
 - Waiving the waiting week, work search, and work registration requirements.
 - Updating the capability of the online application system, by installing 72 new servers, which will allow the system to handle up to 120,000 simultaneous claims at once.
 - Later this week an additional 10 servers will be installed.
 - Hiring more than 500 new Reemployment Assistant Representatives at the call centers, as well as drafting other state employees to work through the claims and cut down on wait times.
- DEO has also created a mobile-friendly website for you to submit your application online. Once this application is completed and processed, you should be hearing back from DEO via phone or email to confirm the final details. You can apply through that site [here](#), under the Reemployment Assistance section you will find “Apply Now” and that will launch the application.
 - DEO has also crafted an [FAQ](#), that can hopefully address some of your questions, however, please contact me if you have any questions throughout the application process, and I will do my best to get you an answer.
- The Department of Economic Opportunity has created a paper application for unemployment claims. You can find the application and instructions [here](#).
 - I also want to let you know that I am working with my colleagues in the House and Senate to make unemployment payments retroactive. There are so many Floridians who are counting on unemployment benefits and the way things stand benefits would only be issued once the application has been submitted.

- I know that many of you are having difficulty with the unemployment application. I along with other leaders have been advocating for the Governor to take action and help make the DEO system more efficient, and I am glad to report that over the weekend some improvements have been made.
 - There have been 72 new servers added to the DEO system this weekend, which will allow for up to 120,000 unique users. A redundancy system has also been added that should help stop the system from being overwhelmed.
 - 250 new phone service representatives started today and 500 additional representatives are being trained today. More than 2,000 state employees from other areas are being drafted to help deal with the claims.
 - There is still expected to be significant delays as they continue to hire and improve the system.
- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity will be accepting claims for Reemployment Assistance for those employees who have been negatively impacted as a result of the mitigation efforts in Florida to stop the spread of COVID-19. Individuals who may be eligible for Reemployment Assistance may include:
 - Those who are quarantined by a medical professional or government agency
 - Those who are laid off or sent home without pay for an extended period of time by their employer due to COVID-19 concerns
 - Or, those who are caring for an immediate family member who is diagnosed with COVID-19
 - If you fall into one of these categories you submit your claim via the [CONNECT system](#), or if you need assistance filing a claim you can call 1(800) 681-8102.

County Updates

- The county has released [Emergency Order No. 28](#) in order to comply with Governor DeSantis' move into Phase 3.
 - Capacity limitations have been lifted - all businesses may operate at 100% capacity
 - Restrictions have been lifted on all recreational activities including golf, tennis, community pools, boating/marine, etc.
 - Restrictions on beaches, vacation rentals, and banquet halls have been lifted
 - All individuals, businesses, and establishments shall adhere to all applicable social distancing guidelines issued by the CDC. The foregoing shall apply to all persons located in all businesses and establishments but said requirements cannot be imposed to limit restaurant capacity to less than one hundred percent of its indoor capacity at any given time.
 - All businesses and establishments must adhere to enhanced cleaning protocols, such as those in guidelines issued by the CDC (relating to enhanced cleaning and disinfecting guidance for reopening).
- The county mandatory mask ordinance has been extended through October 22, 2020.
- **There is \$23 MILLION available to help restart business throughout Palm Beach County, through the CARES Restart Business Grant Program. Applications will be open again on** Friday, September 25, 2020 at 8:00 A.M. The Restart Business Program guidelines, including eligibility criteria will be posted on the County's website. The Board gave approval for individual grants up to \$25,000 to help "restart" Palm Beach County businesses forced to close by State or County Executive Order.
 - The application process will be completed entirely on-line through the County's portal, and requires general information about the applicant business; applicant certifications, affirmations and acknowledgements; and applicant-uploaded documents including tax returns, payroll reports and an active Palm Beach County Business Receipt or valid exemption from the Palm Beach County

Tax Collector. Sole Proprietors and General Partnerships not required to register with the FL Department of State Division of Corporations (<https://dos.myflorida.com/sunbiz>) will be exempt from the Sunbiz requirement. Businesses that previously received funding through this program are not eligible to apply.

- Interested businesses are encouraged to prepare for the Restart Business Grant Program Application as they will be processed on a first come, first eligible basis. The online application is expected to launch on Friday, September 25, 2020 at 8:00 A.M., and will be accessible through the Palm Beach County website for a two-week period closing on Friday October 9, 2020 at 11:59 P.M.
- For additional information, please visit Palm Beach County's Department of Housing & Economic Sustainability website at <https://discover.pbcgov.org/hes/Pages/default.aspx>
- The County has issued Emergency Order 2020-025 which clarifies that clubhouses, banquet halls, ballrooms, and other rental spaces may be open for meetings and other events. As of the effective date of this emergency order, clubhouses, banquet halls, ballrooms, and other rental spaces may be open for meetings and uses authorized in previous emergency orders including, but not limited to, seated meal service, with the following limitations:
 - Maximum 50% room capacity;
 - Tables for banquet style seating must be spaced at least 6-feet apart and shall be limited to no more than 8 people per table. Theater, classroom, boardroom and similar seating arrangements must provide for social distancing;
 - CDC guidelines must be adhered to in accordance with Section 3, including, but not limited to, all social distancing and enhanced cleaning and disinfection guidelines;
- Highridge Family Center will be resuming their free Residential Treatment Program for Palm Beach County Youth. Beginning September 29, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Highridge Family Center will resume its free certified trauma-informed care residential

treatment program for youth ages 11-16, who are experiencing problems at home, school, with friends, and in the community.

- In addition to licensed clinicians providing therapeutic services, residents will attend small in-person classes from School District of Palm Beach County certified teachers. Youth will also participate in recreational, therapeutic, and creative activities throughout the day. Family, individual and group therapy are required components of the program and will be available in-person or virtually.
- The regular schedule will have youth arrive on Monday mornings at 6:45 a.m. and be released for the weekends on Fridays at 12:45 p.m. The restart date was moved to Tuesday due to Monday, September 28 being a school holiday. Families are responsible for transportation to and from the program. Due to the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the \$75 registration and activity fees have been waived.

Highridge Family Center follows CDC guidelines for social distancing, handwashing and face coverings (provided). Changes have been made to restroom and meal service procedures to decrease any transfer of germs. The program is free of charge for Palm Beach County residents.

- The center is located at 4200 N. Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach. For more information or to apply for services, please call (561) 625-2540.
- The Palm Beach County Community Services Department has contracted with the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc. and Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. to provide county residents with free legal representation and assistance in handling landlord/tenant matters and past due payments through the Rapid Response Eviction Assistance Project (RREAP). The program is part of the CARES Act COVID-19. Individuals facing eviction may call the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County's Rapid Response Eviction Project at (561) 655-8944, ext. 328 or Florida Rural Legal Services at 1-888-582-3410.

- PBC Youth Services Department will Resume Free In-Person Mental Health Services. In accordance with Palm Beach County entering Phase 2, Step 1 reopening, mental health services provided by the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Residential Treatment and Family Counseling (RTFC) Division will resume in-person services beginning September 21. Palm Beach County Youth Services continues to adhere to the CDC guidelines. Telehealth services will continue to be offered, based on client preference.
 - Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. with locations in West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Delray Beach and Belle Glade.
Mental health services are offered in person or virtually, via Zoom Video and available in English, Spanish, French and Creole.
Please call 561-625-2540 to schedule an intake appointment.
 - For a full list of mental health services provided by Palm Beach County Youth Services, please visit our website.
- Bars will remain CLOSED in Palm Beach County
 - The Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation Emergency Order 2020-010 issued yesterday, removes a state-wide bar closure order. Palm Beach County, however, was approved to move to Phase 2 in an incremental, step-by-step approach and bars in Palm Beach County are not permitted to open in our current Step 1 of Phase 2 and they must remain closed until an additional County order is issued. The County Administrator and the Board of County Commissioners are closely monitoring indicators of COVID-19 prevalence and spread in Palm Beach County and will proceed with additional business openings in accordance with the recently approved [Incremental Phase 2 Re-opening Plan for Palm Beach County](#).
- The Palm Beach County Library System will be adding Sunday Hours at select branch locations starting September 13, 2020.
 - The following branches will be open on Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.:
 - Acreage Branch

- Gardens Branch
- Hagen Ranch Road Branch
- Jupiter Branch
- Lantana Road Branch
- Main Library
- Wellington Branch
- West Boca Branch
- West Boynton Branch
- Governor Ron DeSantis has approved Palm Beach County to enter an incremental Phase 2 reopening effective on Tuesday, September 8th. Included in the County's incremental Phase 2 plan:
 - Retail stores, museums, libraries, personal services (not already open), gyms, and fitness centers may operate at full capacity
 - Restaurants: Outdoor dining may operate at full capacity. Indoor dining remains at up to 50% capacity.
 - Movie theaters may operate at 50% capacity
 - Playhouses may operate at 33% capacity
 - Bowling alleys may operate at 50% of lanes with 4 players maximum per lane, restricted access to house balls and spectators 6 feet apart
 - Skating rinks may operate with no more than 25 skaters in rink and spectators 6 feet apart
 - Escape rooms may operate with no more than 6 people (from the same party) and staggered start times
 - Trampoline centers and other indoor entertainment may operate at 50% capacity with the following guidelines: shared equipment sanitized between patrons, no shared equipment where sanitizing isn't feasible; no groups greater than 10 people; spectators 6 feet apart; trampolines - 1 person per trampoline, battle beam, tumble mat and ninja pit
 - To read the County's full plan [click here](#)
- The County has issued Emergency Order 23, which revises an earlier order that restricted operating hours on serving food and/or alcohol for on premises consumption and other business hours. These establishments

must now be closed from 12:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. This EO will also re-open tattooing, body piercing, and tanning business establishments.

- Palm Beach County has issued Emergency Order 21 which allows for Public Parks, Private Parks, and Natural Areas to reopen with all users assuming any and all risks associated with utilizing the activities:
 - Skate parks and bicycle tracks may be open with supervision as determined by park management;
 - All park playgrounds, water playgrounds, play and exercise equipment may be open;
 - Water fountains may be open;
 - Volleyball courts may be open;
 - Campgrounds may begin taking reservations for stays on or after October 1, 2020;
 - Supervised sports facilities with lights may be open after sunset; and
 - Adult sports activities and leagues are permitted.
- On Sept. 1, 2020, the Palm Beach County Community Services Department (CSD) will temporarily suspend the acceptance of rental and utility applications to allow sufficient time to process applications currently in the queue.
 - The county will reopen the application portal in October if funds are still available. Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Aug. 31 in order to be processed.
- The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners will provide funding through its Youth Services Department to the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County to provide child care scholarships for qualifying families with school-age children grades K-5 who may be participating in the School District of Palm Beach County's distant learning curriculum.
 - Monies are made available through the county's CARES Act funding to meet the need of access to childcare services for those families affected by financial difficulties due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The scholarship will prioritize homeless children, children residing in families who work or attend school during the hours of the School District of Palm Beach County's distance learning and have a household income at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines.
 - Additionally, Palm Beach County Youth Services procured 1,000 headsets to be supplied to child care centers allowing students to concentrate on their individual lessons in a congregate setting.
 - For more information, visit <https://www.elcpalmbeach.org/>.
- The Palm Beach County Community Services Department (CSD) has contracted with the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County, Inc. and Florida Rural Legal Services, Inc. to provide county residents with free legal representation and assistance in handling landlord/tenant matters and past due payments through the Rapid Response Eviction Assistance Project (RREAP). The agencies will assist individuals who have received a three-day notice or demand for rent from their landlord, been served with an eviction lawsuit, or who need help understanding the eviction process.
 - Individuals facing eviction may call the Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County's Rapid Response Eviction Project at (561) 655-8944, ext. 328 or Florida Rural Legal Services at 1-888-582-3410.
 - Applicants will need documentation to qualify for the program:
 - proof of U.S. Citizenship or legal residents (per CARES Act regulations)
 - documentation proving hardship is directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as evidence of loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment due to the COVID-19 pandemic that contributed to the missed rental payments, and
 - an eviction notice (three-day notice or 30-day notice for CARES Act covered parties);
- The Palm Beach County Community Services Department has partnered with eight community-based agencies to help residents apply for the Rent and Utilities Assistance Program through CARES Act funding. For more

information or to make an appointment with a partnering agency, visit their website or call the respective number below:

- Adopt-a-Family – Family Division of the Lewis Center, 1000 45th Street, West Palm Beach, (561) 444-0398, www.aafpb.org
- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Palm Beach – 9995 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, (561) 775-9560 or (561) 360-3327, www.catholiccharitiesdpc.org
- Farmworker Coordinating Council of Palm Beach County, Inc. – Lake Worth Office: 1123 Crestwood Blvd., Lake Worth, (561) 533-7227 / Belle Glade: 233 W. Ave. A Suite D, Belle Glade, (561) 992-0603, www.farmworkercc.org
- Community Partners - (561) 386-2704 or 561-841-3500 ext. 1002, www.cp-cto.org/housing-services
- Pathways to Prosperity – 970 N. Seacrest Blvd., Boynton Beach, (561) 523-0179, www.pathwaysboynton.org
- Palm Beach County Housing Authority - 3432 West 45th Street, West Palm Beach, (561) 684-2160, www.pbchafl.org
- The Lord's Place - 2808 N Australian Ave, West Palm Beach, (561) 537- 4652 or (561) 494-0125, www.thelordsplace.org
- The Urban League of Palm Beach County - 1700 N. Australian Ave, West Palm Beach, 561-833-1461 ext. 3000, <http://www.ulpb.org>
- Applicants with pending documentation may also submit their documents at Palm Beach County Libraries. Some library locations may have limited in-person services. Library staff will only receive documents for pending applications. **Assistance with applying and/or submitting applications for the program is not offered at any Palm Beach County Branch Library.** For more information or to locate your nearest library, visit www.pbclibrary.org/locations
 - Drop-off services are only available for clients who have submitted their application and need assistance with uploading pending documentation. For assistance applying for the program. Call (561) 355-4792 or contact any of the

eight community-based organizations that are providing navigation services. The list of agencies can be found [here](#).

- All branches of the Palm Beach County Library System have expanded Wi-Fi signals throughout their parking lots. This will allow members who do not want to come into the building to access the internet from their car. For a list of library, locations visit www.pbclibrary.org.
 - The Library System is also offering remote printing. You can now print from anywhere – your hotel room, home, school, office or even from your mobile device in the library. Create a print job from your PC/laptop, smartphone or iPad while connected online and pick up it up at one of the library locations. To start, simply download the PrinterOn app for iOS and Android. Search for the PrinterOn App in Google Play or the Apple App Store. Select the library location where your print job will be sent. The charge is 20 cents for black and white and 30 cents for color prints, per page. Cash only. Pay for your prints at the branch you selected.
- Mental health services provided by Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Youth and Family Counseling (YFC) program are available at no charge for Palm Beach County residents in the Glades area with youth ages 0-22. YFC licensed clinical social workers, licensed mental health counselors, and masters-level therapists can help families by addressing the following areas:
 - bullying
 - self-esteem
 - family violence
 - isolation
 - school and behavioral concerns
 - emotion regulation
 - grief
 - loneliness
 - parent-child relationships
 - adjustment/anxiety to virtual school
 - communication and social skills

- Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Telemental health services are offered in English, Spanish, French and Creole via Zoom Video. To schedule an appointment, please email YSD-YFC-WestAppt or call the YFC West County Office (Belle Glade) at (561) 922-1233.
 - For a full list of telemental health services provide by Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Residential Treatment and Family Counseling (RTFC) Division, please visit our [website](#).
- Palm Beach County has issued Emergency Order 2020-18 which clarifies that licensed massage therapy and or acupuncture is allowed to operate under Phase 1 restrictions.
- Beginning August 31, Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Highridge Family Center is offering an ongoing five-days-per-week Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) for youth ages 11-16, who are experiencing mental health or behavioral concerns and need more intensive supervision than at-home distance learning may provide.
 - For more information or to apply for services, please call 561-625-2540.
- Palm Beach County has issued Emergency Order 2020-15, which clarifies the previous order for restaurant closures. The new order directs that no establishment be permitted to serve alcohol for on-site consumption between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. Said establishments shall be closed and vacated between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. with the exception of staff performing necessary functions (such as cleaning and closing services) and except for drive-through, pick-up, or take-out services for off-site consumption.
- The County has also extended the mask mandate for another 30 days. The mandate will sunset on August 23 if not renewed.
- The Palm Beach County Library System is offering some evening and Saturday hours. All locations are closed on Sunday. Facial covers are required.
 - A limited number of computers will be available with social distancing measures in place. Computer users are limited to a 1-hour computer session per day.

- Returned materials will be quarantined for 72 hours. Members are asked to return items through the book drop or automated returns and to place items removed from shelves on book carts for quarantine.
 - Visit their [website](#) for hours and to see what activities are available.
- Starting, August 16, fares will be required to ride all Palm Tran transit services. Boarding will be through the front doors of fixed-route buses at that time. Please have fare or bus pass ready.
- Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners has issued Emergency Order 2020-014 which prohibits establishments from serving alcohol on-site for consumption between 11:00 am and 5:00 am. Restaurants will also not be permitted to sell food, unless for delivery, pick-up, or take-out, during those times.
- The Board of County Commissioners has passed a **mandatory mask ordinance**. **This ordinance requires a mask or facial coverings to be worn in all public places where social distancing is not possible** throughout Palm Beach County. Children under two and individuals with respiratory conditions are exempt from the ordinance.
 - You can view a summary of the Emergency Order [here](#).
- The CARES Act Rent and Utilities Assistance Program provides one-time rental and/or utility assistance to eligible Palm Beach County residents who have experienced loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are for applicants who reside in apartments, houses, townhouses, or mobile homes.
 - To be eligible for this assistance program applicants must:
 - be a resident of Palm Beach County;
 - provide documentation to prove loss of income, reduction in hours, or unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic;
 - provide documentation to show they have applied or are receiving state or federal unemployment benefits;

- meet gross Area Median Income (AMI) limit not exceeding 140% AMI for the household;
 - have a lease and other utilities in their name or a household member's name;
 - not have received any other financial assistance for rent and/or utilities for the period payment is requested;
 - have less than \$5,000 in liquid assets in checking, savings, and cash card balances;
- Applicants can only receive assistance once but may apply for multiple services. All assistance must be applied for at the same time. Other restrictions may apply. 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.
- Applications must be submitted through the CSD's online portal. To apply, visit www.pbcgov.com/OSCARSS.
- The Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) outreach has expanded. SNAP benefit sign-up is now available by appointment at five PBC Library locations. Please see the schedule for the locations near District 81:
 - **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
 - **Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, Glades Road Branch, 20701 95th Ave. South, Boca Raton, FL 3343
 - 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
- EMERGENCY ORDER NUMBER 11 PALM BEACH COUNTY COVID-19 ADDITIONAL DIRECTIVE ON RECREATIONAL FACILITIES Palm Beach County issues order 2020-011, effective June 11, 2020, to authorize the operation of the youth activities described in Governor's order 20-131 including youth sports teams and leagues, youth clubs and programs, childcare, summer camps, and youth recreation camps. Palm

Beach County's order 2020-011 also adjusts the requirements related to boating and marine activities, golf courses, and the use of public and private parks. It permits field and lawn sports and other activities with appropriate social distancing measures and limitations on congregating.

- To see the full summary of the changes in the Executive Order, click [here](#).
- In an ever-evolving effort to continue essential operations, Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control will resume appointment-based spay and neuter services for Community Cats (feral and free-roaming) only, on a limited basis, in addition to re-opening the drive-up vaccine clinic for owned pets. These services will be offered Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays for the remainder of the month of June.
 - Drive-up Vaccine & Microchip Clinic (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10 a.m. to noon), for questions regarding the clinic please call 561-233-1272.
 - Pet owners will be required to stay in their own vehicles while shelter staff handles and vaccinates their pet(s). Dogs must be on secured leashes, and cats must be in carriers.
 - Rabies license tags and proof of vaccinations will be mailed to the pet owner within three to five business days.
Vaccines can be purchased by credit card, cash or check; all late fees associated with rabies vaccines and tag renewals have been temporarily suspended until further notice.
 - Spay/Neuter Services for Community Cats (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays)
 - Call 561-233-1261 to schedule an appointment.
 - A maximum of 15 surgeries per day will be available by appointment only; no walk-ups will be accepted.
 - Surgeries will be for Community Cats only.
 - Cats must be in traps.
 - Cats must be 4 months old or older.
 - A maximum of 2 slots will be available per trapper.

- Cats will be spayed or neutered, receive a rabies and FVRCP vaccine, microchip, and flea prevention, and their left ear will be notched.
- The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved the CARES Restart Business Grants Program to accelerate the reopening of businesses hardest hit by COVID-19. The \$60 million Business Restart Program uses a portion of the county's \$261 million allocations from the Federal CARES Act approved by Congress. The BCC has dedicated \$50 million toward businesses with 25 or fewer employees and \$10 million towards businesses with greater than 25 employees. The application period is now over but could reopen if grant dollars remain after the current applications are processed.
- Executive Order 2020-10 has been approved and requires that those entering public buildings and the County's Palm Tran service MUST wear a facial covering.
- All jury selection proceedings are suspended through July 17. Jurors who were summoned for jury duty through July 17 do not have to report for service. Criminal and Civil jury trials now suspended through July 17, 2020; statewide grand jury suspended through July 26, 2020.
 - Those with questions regarding jury service can call 561-355-2930 or visit <https://jury.mypalmbeachclerk.com/#/home>.
- The County has released its [Vacation Rental COVID Safety requirements](#), in advance of the opening of Vacation Rentals. Vacation Rentals are still CLOSED throughout the County.
- Palm Beach County's Restart Business Grant program is open for another 10 days. The program allocates \$50 million toward businesses with 25 or fewer employees and \$10 million towards businesses with greater than 25 employees. Eligible businesses can receive up to \$25,000. For more information, or to apply, [click here](#).
- Starting on June 17, the Palm Beach County Youth Services Department's Youth and Family Counseling program will begin a virtual support group for teens throughout the county ages 13-18. REAL TALK, will be held via Zoom Video, is a six-week support group is designed to be a safe space for teens. During these Zoom Video chats participants

will learn to recognize and manage their emotions, develop self-awareness, practice mindfulness, and support other participants. Sessions will be held on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. To register or get additional information you can contact the Youth Services Department at (561) 242-5714.

- CareerSource Palm Beach County's Central Career Center (3400 Belvedere Road, West Palm Beach) will reopen with limited services from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm on June 1, 2020. Career Centers in Belle Glade and Delray Beach remain closed until further notice. The organization will also continue to provide virtual services online and by email and phone to serve customers.
 - Customers are required to wear masks or face coverings while on-site, submit to touchless temperature monitoring and answer screening questions before entering the center, sanitize their hands upon entry into the center and maintain proper social distancing at all times.
 - No children or non-service visitors will be allowed due to health and safety reasons. Those unable or unwilling to follow these restrictions cannot enter.
 - Those with 100-degree temperature or above, or anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, cannot enter and will be advised to contact a healthcare provider.
 - Staff have been furnished with personal protective equipment such as shields and masks. They are required to submit to touchless temperature monitoring and answer screening questions when they report to work, clean/sanitize work areas, and maintain proper social distancing at all times. Those with 100-degree temperature or above, or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, cannot enter and will be advised to contact a healthcare provider.
- The Palm Beach County Library System will reopen all locations to the public starting on Monday, June 1 at 10 am. The library will start with reduced hours and services to ensure the safety and health of our residents and staff. The attached flyer provides an overview. Additional information will be available online later today at www.pbclibrary.org. The Bookmobile will also return to the road on a reduced schedule.
 - The Library's walk-up holds service will continue in an "on demand" mode for the next two weeks. As well, the Library encourages residents to continue using our electronic services,

eBook collection and to contact staff by phone, email, or through the “Ask a Librarian” chat service.

- The Library System will monitor usage and slowly add additional services and operating hours based on consultation with County Administration.
- Applications for the CARES Restart Business Grants Program are expected to launch on Friday, May 22 at 8:00 am.
 - The program guidelines, including eligibility criteria, are currently posted [here](#). The Board of County Commissioners has set aside \$60 million for this purpose and has given approval for individual grants up to \$25,000 to help Palm Beach County businesses forced to close or limit operations and are now planning to “restart” based on the county’s phased opening process. Required documents will include a fully executed application from the county’s online portal, certifications, affirmations and acknowledgments, tax returns, payroll reports, an active Palm Beach County Business Tax Receipt, and an active registration on SunBiz. These documents will be required to be uploaded into the system by the applicant.
- At this time, all Library locations are still closed to the public. However, the Palm Beach County Library System is offering a walk-up holds pick-up service, as well as a variety of online services. To access online services, please visit www.pbclibrary.org/virtual-library. The Palm Beach County Library System has many resources available to help students, parents, and job seekers during this time.
 - The walk-up service will work as follows:
 - Place hold requests by phone, library app or through the library catalog at www.pbclibrary.org.
 - Wait for library staff to contact you letting you know your hold is ready to pick up.
 - When you arrive at the library, call the branch phone number listed on a sign in front of the building.

- After verification, a staff member will check the item(s) out to your account and place the item(s) on a table or cart immediately outside the front entrance.
 - Remain at least 6 feet away from the front entrance behind a designated marker until the staff member closes the doors. Once the staff member is back inside, please pick up your item(s).
- The Tax Collector's Office will be resuming in-person service by APPOINTMENT ONLY on June 1. The agency's website at www.pbctax.com offers the convenience of completing common transactions online without the need to visit a tax collector office. Many transactions can also be completed by mail. The Tax Collector's Office located at 301 N. Olive Avenue in **West Palm Beach** **remains closed** until further notice. All other offices remain open.
- The Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office and five service centers are open Monday through Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. Online business is encouraged rather than an in-person visit. Log onto the website: www.pbcgov.org/PAPA call: (561) 355-2866 or email at PAO@pbcgov.org.
- Palm Tran has resumed their normal schedules, please note, all passengers are required to have a mask covering their nose and mouth while riding and only 20 passengers are allowed on board for fixed-route buses. Palm Tran Connection is operating, for essential trips only.
- The Clerk and Comptroller of Palm Beach County will resume public services at all locations beginning Monday, May 11 at 8:00 am. For the safety of the customers and employees, the Clerk and Comptroller has installed plexiglass shields in customer service areas, posted reminders for social distancing, and is limiting the number of customers allowed in the lobbies.
 - Customers visiting the offices must:
 - Wear a face covering
 - Maintain 6 feet distance from others
 - Enter lobbies only if you have direct business with the office

- Please note that some services will be conducted by appointment only, You can contact each office location for more details
 - Main Courthouse, West Palm Beach: (561) 355-4489
 - Midwestern Communities Service Center, Royal Palm Beach (temporarily closed Fridays): (561) 784-1270
 - North County Courthouse, Palm Beach Gardens: (561) 624-6650
 - South County Courthouse, Delray Beach: (561) 274-1557
 - West County Courthouse, Belle Glade: (561) 992-1423
- The Tax Collector has reopened additional offices for clients who cannot complete their transactions online or by mail will be admitted for services. Clients must wear a face mask or face covering at all times and must follow social distancing protocols. For more information, call the Tax Collector's Office at 561-355-2264. The following offices are open and taking appointments:
 - Delray Beach, 501 S Congress Ave, Delray Beach
 - Belle Glade, 2976 State Road 15, Belle Glade
 - Central Palm Beach, 4215 S Military Trail, Greenacres
 - Northeast County Courthouse, 3188 PGA Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens
 - Royal Palm Beach, 200 Civic Center Way, Royal Palm Beach
- Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners has signed Emergency Order #5 which sets rules and regulations for reopening recreational facilities throughout the county. Starting tomorrow the following rules will go into effect, though you should check with your local community to check their re-opening timeline:
 - Recreational Boating will be allowed but there are specific capacities for each vessel depending on the size of the vessel.
 - Beaching, landings, anchoring, or mooring of vessels on sandbars, islands, and open shorelines will be prohibited.
 - Charter boats, drift fishing and dive boats, marinas, docks, ramps, etc will be allowed to operate in adherence with CDC and county guidelines.

- Golf courses will be opened and there will be rules for the courses themselves, such as play limited to walking and/or single-rider carts only.
- Tennis courts and community pools will be open for limited use at both private and public facilities.
- Parks and natural areas will be open sunrise to sunset for one-way walking, running, biking, fishing, kayaking, etc while practicing social distancing. Picnic pavilions will remain closed and basketball courts are for individual practice only.
- Beaches will remain CLOSED.
- The Tax Collector's office at 501 South Congress Avenue in Delray Beach has re-opened to help Palm Beach County Residents with Driver's License appointments. The Delray office will operate with a reduced staff Monday through Friday from 8:15 am to 4:20 pm by [APPOINTMENT ONLY](#).
 - Clients must wear their own face mask or face covering for service and social distancing protocols will be followed.
 - Clients should also note:
 - Clients will not allowed to sit in the lobby to wait for their appointment, please do not arrive more than 15 minutes before their scheduled appointment
 - Only the individual with the scheduled appointment will be admitted into the office, friends and family will not be admitted to the office.
 - The agency will not supply face masks or hand sanitizer to the public.
 - Contactless payment methods such as Apple Pay, Google Pay, or Samsung Pay are encouraged.
- [Peggy's Pantry](#) assists families located in Palm Beach County to feed their pets. They **also** offer referrals for low-cost vet care and spay/neuter surgeries for pet owners. Our goal is to keep families and their pets together and out of the shelter.
 - They are also in need of donations for Local Pet Food Banks that are running desperately low on resources and donations.

Items most need dry cat food (no open bags), dry dog food (no open bags), canned adult cat food and canned kitten food, canned adult dog food and cat litter.

- Items can be ordered online and shipped directly to the food bank of your choice, or dropped off at their location. To donate or to receive help, reach out to one of the pet food banks by clicking [here](#).
- Discover The Palm Beaches (DTPB), has opened a virtual help desk for essential lodgers to ask questions as they navigate hotel resources and special offers. Available by phone and email, the help desk complements the comprehensive Hotel Status List, special hotel offers and other discounts published on the DTPB website. Essential lodgers range from healthcare professionals and first responders to displaced residents and visitors. The help desk can be reached by email at sales@thepalmbeaches.com.
- The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, in partnership with Palm Beach County, local chambers of commerce, and municipalities, is launching www.BizHelpPBC.com to help companies struggling from the COVID-19 pandemic. This website will provide weekly news updates, resources, and will feature a 2 pm Town Hall call every Friday.
- Individuals and families experiencing economic hardship related to COVID-19 because of loss of employment, or sickness can apply for assistance through the Community Services Department. Residents who are eligible can access emergency rental and utility assistance online by visiting the website or by calling the following phone numbers:
 - 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
 - For now, the courts have temporarily suspended hearings on evictions, and a moratorium has been placed on utility shutoffs. However, residents are encouraged to act now to ensure

they have the ability to budget responsibly and make sure rent/mortgage and utilities are paid. Please visit the website for more information about how to prepare and budget. www.pbcgov.com/communityservices

- Palm Beach County Youth Services is providing FREE Telemental Health Services to the residents of Palm Beach County. For more information about Telemental Health and other services provided by Palm Beach County Youth Services, please visit their [website](#).
 - Education & Training Center – psychologists and doctoral trainees offer family therapy, individual therapy, and parent training services through Zoom Video Telemental Health. Bilingual therapists (Spanish & Creole) are available. To schedule an intake appointment, please call 561-233-4460. The Education & Training Center also provides free weekly remote trainings on a variety of mental health topic
 - Highridge Family Center – currently accepting applications for future residents. Intake appointments and weekly family counseling sessions, in addition to virtual individual therapy and parental support, are ongoing via Telemental Health. To schedule an appointment, please call 561-625-2540.
 - Family Violence Intervention (FVIP) – court diversion program is accepting cases referred from the State Attorney's Office. FVIP team of master and bachelor-level staff provide case management, case planning, referral advocacy and mediation telehealth services via Zoom Video.
 - Youth and Family Counseling (YFC) – currently providing assessments, family and individual therapy, parent education and school-based behavioral health services via Zoom Video. Telemental Health services are offered in English, Spanish, French, and Creole. To schedule an appointment, please call (561) 242-5714
- The Area Agency on Aging announced today a COVID-19 expansion to its Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC Helpline). Seniors 60+ are encouraged to call the ADRC Helpline for assistance with food, food

stamps, COVID 19 information such as testing sites, and questions on Medicare or Medicaid. Call the ADRC Helpline at 1(866) 684-5885. Specially trained counselors are available to help in English, Spanish or Creole Monday through Friday 8:00 – 5:00.

- Palm Tran is limiting the number of people allowed to ride on buses to no more than 15 passengers, please look to the head sign which may indicate if the bus is full. If the bus is full you will need to wait for the next bus on the route, you can call customer service at (561) 841-4287 for the arrival time of the next scheduled bus.
- Effective this week, Palm Tran's Western Community Bus Service, Go Glades, will be implementing a change to its daily service. Routes 1, 2, 3, and 4 will no longer be serviced. You will have to book a trip to use Go Glades by calling (561) 649-9838.
- The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners has issued an Emergency Order requiring that masks or facial coverings be worn whenever social distancing is not possible, for example, when at grocery stores, restaurants, pharmacies, construction sites, and/or public transit vehicles. It is also suggested that any person present in any public place in Palm Beach County to wear facial coverings as well.
- The Board of County Commissioners meets tomorrow. The Board is offering additional ways to submit public comments for Tuesday's meeting. In addition to in-person public comment, members of the public are also able to submit their comments via an online form here: [Submit Public Comment](#).
 - All comments must be submitted prior to the agenda item starting. Please refer to the [latest agenda](#) for the item number you'd like to comment on and include that in the form when submitting.
- Sheriff Bradshaw has established a program to assist those folks in the South County area who are unable to get out of their homes to go to the grocery store or pharmacy. Sheriff's Office Volunteers are ready to pick up PREPAID groceries and prescriptions and bring them to your home.
 - Call or email between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm for information or to advise that you have placed an order, Krysti Nast, (561) 688-

3918, nastk@pbso.org or Nephateri Burrell, (561) 681-7241, burrelln@pbso.org.

- Residents concerned with rent assistance may contact the Palm Beach County Human Services Eviction Prevention Program. Call 561-904-7900 or apply online at www.pbcgov.org/oscarss.
- If anyone has a complaint about a medical office or asking about procedures to contact the states Medical Quality Assurance office at 850-245-4339
- The Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County has launched a new program offering a scholarship for child care for parents working as first responders, emergency personnel, and other essential employees during this crisis.
 - To learn more about this program you can contact the ELC's family resource line, (561) 514-3300.
- Solid Waste Authority will close five Home Chemical and Recycling Centers after the close of business on Monday, March 30. The two remaining Home Chemical and Recycling Centers in West Palm Beach and Western Delray Beach will remain open for CRUCIAL customer needs only.
- SWA's customer convenience drop-off center at the landfill site is closed. Residents with small haulers of waste are being diverted directly to the landfill.
- The Office of Equal Business Opportunity will no longer be accepting in-person client appointments or walk-ins. Certification and recertification documents can still be uploaded to the [Vendor Self-Service Portal](#) or mailed directly to the office. If you have questions or need additional information please call (561) 616-6840.
- The Drug Abuse Foundation has halted admissions to four of its programs for 15 days. The Emergency Receiving Center remains open. For more information call (561) 278-0000
- All golf courses and county parks are now **CLOSED**.
- Thursday's Board of County Commissioners Meeting will be allowing for Public Comments to be submitted via email. [Public Comment Cards](#) will

need to be submitted to Vismary Dorta, VDorta@pbcgov.org, by no later than 5:00 pm on March 25.

- CareerSource PBC is closing its offices to the public until further notice. They will continue to provide virtual services online and by phone for job seekers and employers at this critical time
- The Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners has ordered that all nonessential retail and commercial businesses close, with exception to perform minimum basic operations, or those activities necessary to maintain the business (payroll, security, equipment preservation, etc.).
 - This order does provide exemptions for grocery stores, pharmacies, agricultural businesses, doctor's offices, media services, gas stations, banks, and other essential businesses.
- County Regional Parks and Golf Courses remain open, however, boat ramps and marinas will be closed to recreational boating throughout the county.
- Sheriff Bradshaw has warned citizens that there are people walking door to door claiming to be with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) offering COVID-19 tests for \$100. This is NOT a service that is being provided by the CDC; please contact the Sheriff's office if someone comes by your home attempting to provide this service.
- Effective March 24, the Clerk and Comptroller is suspending all in-person, non-essential services.
 - Certain services will be conducted by appointment only and the Clerk and Comptroller will still serve customers by phone (561) 355-2996. For more information visit the Clerks [website](#).
- The Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's office will be closed starting March 23 to public walk-in traffic. Offices will be fully staffed and continue to provide services via phone (561-355-3230), email (myexemption@pbcgov.org), and Property Appraiser Public Access [website](#).
- Starting tomorrow, March 24, Palm Tran is suspending bus pass sales; buses will be operating fare free in order to promote social distancing between the drivers and passengers.

- Palm Beach County Libraries will be closed starting 3/20/20
- Tax Collector Centers will be closed on March 20 and March 23 in preparation for operational changes. Offices will re-open to serve the public online, by mail, email, and phone, in-person services are suspended until further notice.
- Congregate meal program administered by the Division of Senior Services will discontinue at the close of business, Thursday, March 19. Participants will receive a 2-week supply of shelf-stable meals to take home with them.
 - Those registered seniors can pick up their next two week supply at the senior center closest to them. There will be other options for those who are unable to drive or rely on public transportation.
- Senior centers will close on Friday with the exception of the Adult Day Care program at North County and Mid-County centers.
- The Highridge Family Center operated by the Youth Services Department has closed in concurrence with school closures. The children and their families are being managed telephonically.
- The Parks Department will be updating existing Facility/Activity Status Charts to reflect the following:
 - Indoor Facilities – Closure of the indoor spaces of Nature Centers, Recreation Centers, Gyms, Museums, Restaurants and Cafes (takeout or delivery food service only).
 - Outdoor Areas – Cancellation of all sports team use of sports fields (fields only available for small group open play), closure of all group pavilions, playgrounds, fitness zones, splash pads, BMX track, pools, and waterparks.
 - General park areas and open space, beaches, trails, golf courses, campgrounds, tennis courts, and pickleball courts will remain open. Basketball courts closed.
- Public Safety's Victim Services Department has implemented the provision of call-in for therapy appointments when appropriate. In-person assistance to sexual assault/domestic violence victims will continue.
- The Animal Care and Control division partners with various agencies to help move animals through the shelter. Agencies are putting certain

protective actions in place that are/will affect these arrangements. To address the impact, Animal Care and Control are recommending the service modifications effective March 23, to include:

- Suspending spay/neuter services for the public until further notice.
- Suspending owner surrenders except for evictions, death of owner, or domestic violence cases.

Other Updates and Important Information

- Palm Beach State College is providing \$500 from CARES Act funds to each eligible student who enrolls for the fall semester. As well as, loaning out laptops and hotspots to our students who need them for virtual instruction.

**PANTHER
PROUD**



**PANTHER
STRONG**

FALL 2020 CLASSES START MONDAY, AUGUST 31

While most classes will be remote or online, courses will be offered in a total of 4 formats:



REMOTE INSTRUCTION
(Live Online)



ONLINE



HYBRID/REMOTE



ON CAMPUS

APPLY NOW - IT'S NOT TOO LATE

Advising



Online Inform
Sessions



Financial Aid



PALMBEACHSTATE.EDU

PANTHERS ON CAMPUS EXPECTATIONS



**SOCIAL
DISTANCING**



**FACIAL COVERINGS
MANDATORY**



**FREQUENT
HANDWASHING**

PANTHER SAFE

- The Small Business administration is holding virtual office hours. Was your small business affected by Covid-19? Are you looking for small business funding? Join the SBA during their virtual hours and have your Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) questions answered by a live person. Participants may call at any time and are welcome to enter and exit at will.
 - Tuesday and Thursday (SPANISH), 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, (202) 765-1264, Conference ID 306 428 356
 - Friday, 10:00 to 11:00 am, (202) 765-1264, Conference ID 999 187 230
 - Friday, 2:00 to 3:00 pm, (202) 765-1264, Conference ID 191 652 154
- ADT has launched a new app, SoSecure, that can help domestic violence victims signal for help without alerting their abusers. The app is available for free on both iOS and Android platforms. It allows victims the ability to discreetly call for help with a simple swipe on their mobile phone. It is hoped that the app will be helpful for victims who are isolated due to social distancing with their abusers.
- The deadline for the Early Learning Coalitions' child care scholarship program is quickly approaching. The Scholarship program is available to first responders, health care workers, and other essential employees. July 31st is the final day to apply for the scholarship. You can find more information about the program [here](#).
- The Boca Raton Town Center and the Boynton Beach Malls have announced they will reopen on Wednesday, May 13th.
 - The hours for both are 11:00 am to 7:00 pm Monday through Saturday, and 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sundays until further notice.
 - The Boynton Beach Mall is offering a special on May 13th from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm, serving first responders and healthcare workers with a complimentary to-go lunch in the Food Court.
- Lion Country Safari has re-opened its Drive-Thru Safari!

- Tickets MUST be pre-purchased for a no-contact entry here <https://bit.ly/3ftzpY3> *If you are an Annual Passholder, you do not need to purchase admission.*
- Here are some details regarding the re-opening of the drive-thru safari:
 - Admission is reduced for \$17 per person, plus taxes and fees. Guests who would prefer not to present their tickets for scanning can provide their name upon arrival and we can look up their order.
 - Ticket sales are limited each day but will also be honoring Annual Passes and ticketholders.
 - The preserve will be open 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM, with the last car admitted at 4:30 PM.
 - Guests must remain in their vehicles with doors and windows closed at all times. The walk-through adventure park is closed until further notice.
- JFS has started a new program, Shop and Share, for those in Boca Raton and Delray Beach who need assistance shopping for their groceries. For more information about the program please reach out to JFS, (561) 852-3333. This program is available to JFS clients and those who are not current JFS clients. You can find more information about the program [here](#).
- FPL has announced that they are issuing a one-time decrease of approximately 25% for the typical residential customer bills, beginning on May 1. They hope that this one-time decrease will accelerate savings to customers during the COVID-19 crisis, rather than spreading out the decreases over the remainder of the year.
- Apple has launched a [COVID-19 screening site](#) in collaboration with FEMA, the CDC, and the White House. With this screening tool you can answer a series of questions and you will receive some advice about what you should do next.
- Effective Saturday, March 28, Tri-Rail trains will suspend fares and operate on a modified schedule, see their [website](#) for more information.
- Brightline has suspended its train service until further notice.

- Baptist Hospital has launched its Baptist Health Care on Demand platform, which allows you to speak to a doctor and get some guidance and/or peace of mind without having to rush to a doctor's office or hospital. Visit their [site](#) and use the code CARE19 for a free visit.
- Bethesda Hospital is conducting a Blood Drive at both of their locations! If you are able to donate blood consider attending one of their blood drives. Each person who donates blood will receive a free OneBlood Water Bottle, \$20 eGift Card, and a Wellness Check.
 - Bethesda Hospital East, March 24, 9:00 am to 7:00 pm
 - Bethesda Hospital West, March 26, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Boca Helping Hands is looking for volunteers and donations for their food pantry! If you have a little extra food at home or you know of a restaurant that has a surplus of food, please contact Boca Helping Hands (561-417-0913) so that they can serve those less fortunate.
- VolunteerFlorida is a great organization that connects Floridians to non-profits and other organizations in need of volunteers. They are still active and have great ideas for how you can safely volunteer during this

time.

COVID-19: HOW YOU CAN HELP

There are plenty of ways for Floridians to safely help out while following health guidance on #COVID19. Here are some options for getting involved in your



Donate to Your
Local Food Bank

Perform Wellness
Checks



Donate Blood



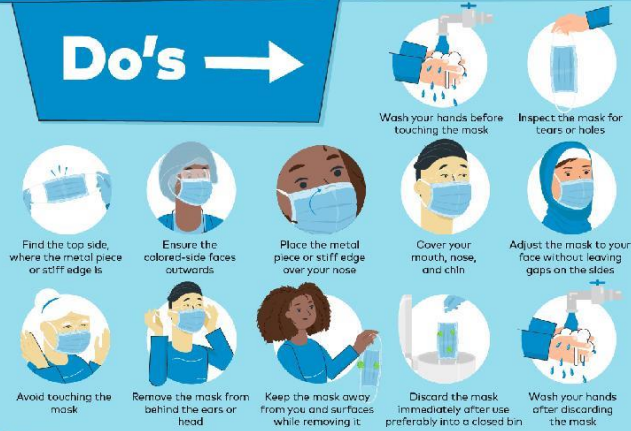
Explore Different Volunteer Opportunities

Explore different volunteer opportunities available in your community on Volunteer Connect, Florida's official volunteer opportunities platform, www.volunteerflorida.org

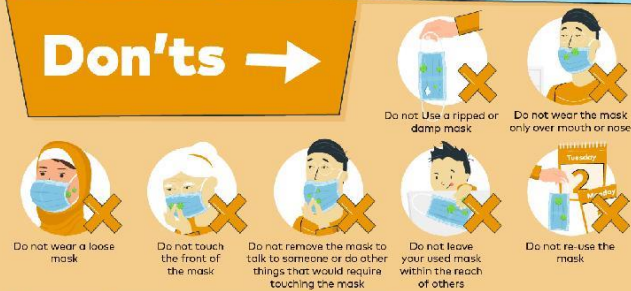
HOW TO WEAR A MEDICAL MASK SAFELY

[who.int/epl-win](https://www.who.int/epl-win)

Do's →



Don'ts →



Remember that masks alone cannot protect you from COVID-19. Maintain at least 1 metre distance from others and wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, even while wearing a mask.

EPI-WIN

World Health Organization

Great tips for wearing a mask safely!



COVID-19

General Prevention

Florida Department of Health • FloridaHealth.gov • tinyurl.com/FLcdcprevention

Protect yourself from all infectious diseases by using these precautions.



Stay home when you are sick



Avoid contact with people who are sick



Get adequate sleep and eat well-balanced meals



Wash hands often with soap and water – 20 seconds or longer



Dry hands with a clean towel or air dry your hands



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands or after touching surfaces



Cover your mouth with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing



Clean and disinfect “high touch” surfaces often



Call before visiting your doctor

Clean all “high-touch” surfaces every day.

High touch surfaces include counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tables, and bedside tables. Also, clean any surfaces that may have blood, stool, or body fluids on them. Use a household cleaning spray or wipe according to the label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

Florida Health Office of Communications | 03.05.20

Great tips for protecting yourself from infectious diseases.



Social Distancing for Infectious Disease

Florida Department of Health • FloridaHealth.gov

Social distancing measures are taken to restrict when and where people can gather to stop or slow the spread of infectious diseases. Social distancing measures include limiting large groups of people coming together, closing buildings and canceling events.

Protect yourself and your community.

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 you don't have soap and water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Avoid close contact with people who are sick, and stay home when you're sick.



Change your daily habits.

Avoid shopping at peak hours and take advantage of delivery or pick-up services with retailers.



Work with your employer.

Cooperate with leadership to change company practices, set up flexible shift plans, have employees telecommute, and cancel any large meetings or conferences.



Look for communications from universities and colleges:

Regarding suspending classes, going to web-based learning and canceling all large campus meetings and gatherings.



Keep at least six feet between you and other people.

Avoid shaking hands as a social greeting.



Avoid public transit if possible.

Don't travel to areas with active outbreaks.



Avoid crowded places.

Sporting events, community festivals, and concerts



Learn more:

tinyurl.com/CDCgatherings

tinyurl.com/FLcdcprevention

Social distancing 101!



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