



County of Eddy

State of New Mexico

Press Release

Date: May 5, 2020

Contact: Jeri Strong, jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us

575-887-9511 ext.2601

Eddy County COVID-19 Update: May 5, 2020

Eddy County, NM- Last week during an update Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham announced an extension of the public stay-at-home order until May 15, 2020, with some easing of certain restrictions.

The Governor announced that during phase one of the reopening of New Mexico's economy "Non-essential retailers, beginning Friday, May 1, 2020, may provide curbside pickup and delivery services if permitted by their business license. Liquor licenses, for instance, do not allow for curbside or delivery service. Child care may now be extended to people operating non-essential businesses."

Other additional changes include:

- State parks may reopen on a modified day-use-only basis, as staff is available. Camping and visitor centers are still closed. The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources department will notify the public of the parks that will be open in the near future.
- Federally licensed firearm retailers may open by appointment only as needed conduct background checks and to allow individuals to take possession of firearms ordered online.
- Golf courses may open to golf only – no dine-in or retail service.
- Pet services – including adoption, grooming, daycare and boarding – are permitted to operate.
- Veterinarians are permitted to operate.

See the Governor's [full press release here](#).

This was good news to many parts of the State with a significantly lower spread of COVID-19, including Eddy County.

Today, during a regularly scheduled Commission Meeting, Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis, said, "As of today, Eddy County has had a total of 13 positive cases and if the trend follows the curve fit for the data, those numbers will peak at less than 20, if we continue to follow the provisions which we've put in place. The figure for Eddy County is less than half of one percent of the total positive tests for the entire State (Eddy County's population represents just under 3% of the State total). Those things can be attributed to the safety measures taken in the County by citizens and businesses alike."

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Treasurer

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Mr. Davis continued, “Good things have been happening here at the County. I’d like to thank all of our Departments for their efforts, and a special thank you to our Facilities and Maintenance Departments for keeping our facilities clean and operational. I’d also like to thank all County employees for continuing to deliver the services that our citizens need during this time.”

Commissioner, Steven McCutcheon, District 4, said during the meeting today, “I really appreciate the leadership here in Eddy County, we are in good hands from top to bottom. Everything is going to be okay. Do not let your hearts fail, stand up in faith. We will come out of this different, but better and stronger. Onward and upward.”

You can listen to the full [Eddy County Commission Meeting here](#).

Follow the [Eddy County Facebook page](#), the [Eddy County Office of Emergency Management Facebook page](#) and [Eddy County website](#) for the latest information.

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County of Eddy

State of New Mexico

Press Release

Date: April 14, 2020

Contact: Jeri Strong, jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us
575-887-9511 ext.2601

Eddy County COVID-19 Update: April 14, 2020

Eddy County, NM- As Federal, State and local information continues to change, Eddy County Officials work to gather the most updated and accurate information possible for the community.

During President Trump’s briefing Friday, he announced that they are working to bring testing to the market as quickly as possible so that Americans can determine whether or not they have had the virus, and potentially have immunity. “The NIH, CDC, and FDA are currently validating these antibody tests to ensure that they are accurate, and they’re doing that at breakneck speed,” said President Trump. “When validated, we’re confident that the production will scale up to tens of millions of tests very quickly.” See the full [White House briefing here](#).

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, yesterday unveiled a one-stop-shop of federal programs that can be used by rural communities, organizations and individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. [The COVID-19 Federal Rural Resource Guide](#) is a first-of-its-kind resource for rural leaders looking for federal funding and partnership opportunities to help address this pandemic. See the [press release here](#).

On Saturday, Governor Lujan Grisham announced that New Mexico houses of worship must now abide by the public health order banning mass gatherings to mitigate COVID-19. “We know that you want to practice your faith, as you should. But this year we must remember that home is holy. The best thing you can do for your community is to stay there,” the Governor said. See the full [press release here](#).

Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis, said, “The County Administrative Offices will continue to restrict public access, encouraging the community to conduct as much business as feasible over the phone, online or through email. The other County departments are also working to provide County services in a manner consistent with State issued Orders.” Mr. Davis continued, “As of Monday afternoon, April 13, 2020, Eddy County had seven confirmed cases. The majority of cases in the State (90%) continue to be in the northern part of the State. However, we need to continue to be vigilant with the practice of safe distancing, limiting travel to essential needs and self-isolation.”

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, or trouble breathing. If you have these symptoms, or are concerned, contact the Department of Health COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453 or access the [self-screening tool here](#).

Follow the [Eddy County Facebook page](#), the [Eddy County Office of Emergency Management Facebook page](#) and [Eddy County website](#) for the latest information.

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County of Eddy
State of New Mexico

Public Notice

Date: April 7, 2020

Contact: Jeri Strong, jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us
575-887-9511 ext.2601

Eddy County COVID-19 Update: World Health Day

Eddy County, NM- As Federal, State and local information continues to change, Eddy County Officials work to gather the most updated and accurate information possible for the community.

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President Trump shared a message today in observance of World Health Day, 2020.

“Today, as our Nation and entire global community continue to combat the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, we reaffirm our commitment to do our part to stop the spread of this virus, care for the sick, and protect the health and well-being of our fellow Americans.” See the full [Presidential message here](#).

Governor Lujan-Grisham, followed suit with President Trump yesterday by extending New Mexico’s stay-at-home order until April 30, 2020, stating, “We must carry on undaunted in our fight against COVID-19. These measures will help us prevent a sudden spike in infections that would overwhelm our healthcare system. This virus is still spreading, and we must remain vigilant about physical distancing from one another. And we will ramp up enforcement of non-compliance.” See the [Governor’s full press release here](#).

In response to the Governor’s extended stay-at-home order, Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis, reminded staff to be remain diligent, stating, “We have another three weeks to persevere, conducting ourselves and our business with the professionalism and attitude that is expected by the citizens of Eddy County. I applaud each of you as you’ve found ways to work safely and effectively, supporting one another day to day through these trying times. I’m asking each of you to continue to stay calm and carry on, we will get through this.” Mr. Davis continued, “There have been no new positive test results reported in Eddy County for the past nine days. The last positive test reported was March 29th. As of Monday evening, April 6th, the reported total of COVID-19 results for the State of New Mexico was 686, of which 45 were hospitalized. The figure includes 12 deaths in the State resulting from the virus. The State also reported that 19,198 tests have been conducted (18,512 negative tests). The majority of the reported cases (90%) are in the northern part of the State. However, that should not change our vigilance and approach to how we take care of ourselves and our community.”

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, or trouble breathing. If you have these symptoms, or are concerned, contact the Department of Health COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453 or access the [self-screening tool here](#).

Follow the [Eddy County Facebook page](#), the [Eddy County Office of Emergency Management Facebook page](#) and [Eddy County website](#) for the latest information.

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County of Eddy
State of New Mexico

Press Release

Date: March 24, 2020

Contact: Jeri Strong, jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us
575-887-9511 ext.2601

Eddy County COVID-19 Update

Carlsbad, NM- On Monday, New Mexico Department of Health Secretary Kathy Kunkel announced a new public health emergency “stay-at-home” public health order, which goes into effect at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

The order closes all non-essential businesses, requiring 100 percent of the state’s non-essential workforce to work from home. All New Mexicans are directed to stay home except as needed to maintain continuity of functions critical to public health and safety.

Eddy County is attempting to clarify all aspects with the Governor’s office as quickly as possible. For more information on who qualifies as essential and nonessential, visit the [New Mexico Department of Health here](#).

Carlsbad Mayor, Dale Janway said, “It’s vitally important to stress that even in a “stay-at-home” order, essential utilities and services will still be provided and people will still be allowed to go out for groceries and other supplies. Residents are still allowed to go outdoors. Restaurants may remain open for delivery and carry-out, according to the state.”

The order also restricts “mass gatherings” of five or more individuals in outdoor spaces.

According to a March 23 press release by New Mexico state health officials, there are now 83 COVID-19 positive tests in New Mexico, including four new cases in Chaves County. There continues to be no positive tests for Eddy County.

Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis said, “Given the guidelines issued in the order, service provided to the citizens of the County are considered essential services. Several are noted specifically, and others are inferred in the order. As such, I ask County employees to continue to do their assigned job in a manner that will minimize contact and interaction with the public as directed by the state order. To accomplish this, we will control public access to work places and limit the number of people in those work places. I will continue to work with the Elected Officials and Eddy County Department Heads to define specific measures and get them put in place. Working together, and watching out for one another we can and will work through this tough situation.”

Residents who report symptoms of COVID-19 infection, such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath, should call the NMDOH COVID-19 hotline immediately (1-855-600-3453). People without those symptoms do not need to be tested for COVID-19.

Please follow the [Eddy County Facebook](#) and [web page](#) for the latest information.

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Press Release

Date: March 20, 2020

Contact: Jeri Strong, jstrong@co.eddy.nm.us
575-887-9511 ext.2601

Eddy County COVID-19 Update

Carlsbad, NM- As more positive COVID-19 are being confirmed in New Mexico, Eddy County is actively monitoring local, State, and Federal updates. There are no confirmed cases in Eddy County or Southeastern NM.

Eddy County Manager, Allen Davis said in a statement today, "Eddy County Offices continue to remain open for business. We are however, working with the various Departments and groups to develop approaches and processes that align with the State Orders and Federal guidelines related to gathering in public places. Some Departments will control access to work spaces, they will limit the number of people in their particular offices. There will be some groups that work by appointment only and they'll set up mechanisms to make appointments available to the public.

We're asking our employees to practice the recommended hygiene in the work environment, to not speculate or perpetuate rumors and unfounded social media and to control the things that they can and be responsible for themselves.

The objective is to provide County services to the citizens and customers in the County, while following the State Orders and guidelines, and reducing the risk of potential exposure by practicing appropriate protection and prevention measures.

We would also ask the public to be considerate of the County employees when they have business to conduct. If the needs can be accomplished on-line or by telephone, please do so. If there is a need to visit one of the County Offices, please understand the provisions that may have been implemented to limit access and the number of individuals who can gather in any of the Department work areas. Be respectful of our employees' health. If you're a customer in need of County services, but you're not feeling well, or perhaps have traveled from other areas of the country, please try to conduct your business remotely, rather than face to face – limiting the potential for exposure.

As the County Manager, I appreciate the efforts of our employees who continue to work to serve the citizens of the County and I appreciate the support of our citizens and customers to help us through this stressful situation."

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Eddy County Emergency Manager, Jennifer Armendariz, has received multiple calls and emails regarding changes in Eddy County. “Being concerned is understandable but consider your source of information and verify what you share.” Armendariz said, “The National Guard has not been given orders to put Eddy County on lockdown, they have been activated to help with COVID-19 related tasks across the State. Furthermore, there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases in Eddy County.”

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, or trouble breathing. If you have these symptoms, or are concerned, contact the Department of Health COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453.

If you do not feel well, stay home.

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