

Paul E Fischer

County Judge
Lee County



County Courthouse
200 South Main, Rm. 107
Giddings, TX 78942
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**ORDER BY THE COUNTY JUDGE OF LEE COUNTY RELATING TO PUBLIC
HEALTH EMERGENCY MANDATING FACE COVERINGS FOR COMMERCIAL
ENTITIES**

Whereas, Governor Abbott has issued several Executive Orders this week as the number of people in Texas testing positive for COVID-19 has increased.

Whereas, there is no known cure for the virus and the only defense is to prevent the spread of the virus. A face covering that adequately covers the nose and mouth is a major inhibitor which helps prevent the spread of the virus.

Whereas, Lee County has no hospital care, no emergency room care. The medical clinics and first responders are under additional stress to test, treat and care for those who have virus symptoms and/or those that are infected with the virus.

NOW THEREFORE, I PAUL E FISCHER COUNTY JUDGE OF LEE COUNTY, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 418, ORDER THAT:

Section 1. Effective as of 12:01 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30, 2020, all businesses and commercial entities in Lee County providing goods or services directly to the public must develop and implement a health and safety policy which provides the following minimum requirements:

- a) All businesses and commercial entities shall require all employees, vendors, service personnel, customers, volunteers, or visitors to wear face covering that covers the nose and mouth while on the business's premises. (includes: drive-thru and curbside services)
- b) All businesses and commercial entities shall deny entrance onto their premises and/or services to any person who refuses or fails to comply with section 1(a) of this order by wearing face covering.
- c) All businesses shall post the Health and Safety Policy required by this Order and/or other information in a conspicuous location to provide notice to employees, volunteers, and visitors of these minimum requirements.
- d) The Health and Safety Policy required to be developed and implemented by this Order may also include other mitigating measures designed to control and reduce the transmission of COVID-19 such as health screening.
- e) These provisions apply to all governmental offices and departments of Lee County.

Section 2. Not Required: A face covering is not required to be worn in the following circumstances:

- a) When the person is alone, in a separate room or single space, and is not in an indoor common area;
- b) When a physical barrier, functionally designed to prevent the spread of germs, separates the individual from any other individual, e.g. glass or plexiglass window;

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- c) When doing so poses a greater mental or physical health, safety or security risk to the person;
- d) When pumping gas or operating outdoor equipment; and
- e) When consuming food or drink.

Section 3. Face Mask Cleaning:

- a) Disposable face masks shall not be worn over three (3) times.
- b) Reusable face masks shall be washed regularly.

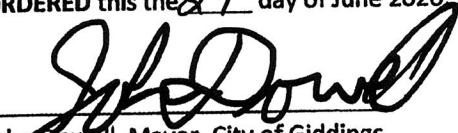
Section 4. Other Circumstances: It is strongly recommended that all persons over the age of ten (10) years of age wear a face mask covering their nose and mouth when in a public place where it is difficult to keep six (6) feet away from other people or working in close proximity with other co-workers.

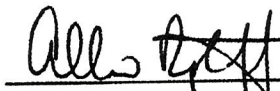
- a) It is highly recommended that all citizens always keep at least six (6) feet of distance from others (except those of an immediate household).
- b) It is highly recommended that a strict personal hygiene regime be adhered to which includes:
 - I. Washing your hands regularly;
 - II. Not touching your nose and mouth with your hands; and
 - III. Maintaining a distance of at least six (6) feet from others (except for immediate household).


Section 5. Face Coverings Materials: Face coverings shall be made of materials sufficient to prevent the spread of vapor droplets from the nose and mouth and may include homemade masks, scarves, bandanas or handkerchiefs, as well as commercial masks.

Section 6. Enforcement: That the Lee County Sheriff and other peace officers, are hereby authorized to enforce this order. A violation of this order is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 plus court cost.

ORDERED this the 29th day of June 2020, in County of Lee, Texas.


John Powell, Mayor, City of Giddings


Allen Retzlaff, Mayor, City of Giddings
Lexington


Paul E Fischer, Lee County Judge