

# Office of the Parish President

#### TERREBONNE PARISH CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT P.O. BOX 6097 HOUMA, LOUISIANA 70361-6097



Text **TPCOVID to 888777** for updates from TPCG.

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Coronavirus Daily Update for May 28, 2020 (all new information is marked with an asterisk\* and bolded)

- \*Number of Coronavirus Cases in Terrebonne Parish: 653 (Increase of 6 from May 27, 2020)
- \*Deaths Confirmed by the Terrebonne Coroner's Office: 50 (Increase of 1 from May 27, 2020)
- \*Presumed Recovered as of May 24, 2020: 424 persons

Number of deaths reported on this report does not match the Louisiana Department of Health coronavirus website due to the latency of data input by the Louisiana Department of Health.

A person is presumed recovered if it has been more than 21 days since he/she tested positive and he/she is not deceased. Presumed recovered counts will be updated weekly on Monday.

# \*Coronavirus Self-Testing Drive Thru Sites Offered in Terrebonne Parish

A Coronavirus Self-Testing Drive Thru site is scheduled for tomorrow, May 29<sup>th</sup>, at Caldwell Middle School on Hwy 311 in Schriever from 8AM to Noon.

Additional Sites Scheduled:

Saturday, May 30 – Devon Keller Recreation Center – Gibson – 8AM to Noon

Testing will be cancelled and not rescheduled for the particular site listed when severe weather is expected.

The sites are open to all persons 18 years and older with a valid Louisiana Driver's License or Louisiana ID. Individuals will be required to perform a nasal swab on themselves. You must remain in your vehicle, no appointment, physician referral or insurance is required. No additional test for symptoms is required and if you have symptoms or had symptoms the last few days but no longer have symptoms, you are still eligible for testing. No pets allowed at the testing site.

For more information, please call 985-873-6357.

# Terrebonne Council on Aging (TCOA) Information

Starting today, May 26, 2020, the Terrebonne Council on Aging will resumed transportation services to and from medical appointments for elderly and disabled residents who are eligible under the guidelines of TCOA's Transportation Program.

To book a trip, clients must call TCOA's Transportation Department at (985) 868-7701. Request for transportation must be received no later than 12 Noon on the business day before the scheduled appointment.

TCOA drivers are not able to wait in line with any passengers. Passengers will be dropped off and picked up from the medical facility or doctor's office only.

Everyone boarding a TCOA vehicle is required to wear a mask.

To adhere to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, there will be limited seating on all TCOA vehicles (maximum of 3 mobile and 1 wheelchair-bound passenger). Due to this restriction, passengers can expect a longer pick-up time.

Passengers are asked to report any cancellations to TCOA as soon as possible.

Economically needy and disadvantaged senior residents of Terrebonne Parish (60 and over), who are not currently receiving home-delivered meals, may call the Terrebonne Council on Aging to find out <u>if they qualify</u> to receive a meal. Please call the Council on Aging at 985-868-8411, then dial 0 for assistance. Because of a large number of calls, seniors may be asked to leave their name and phone number and a Council on Aging staff member will return their call as soon as possible.

The Terrebonne Council on Aging (TCOA) has implemented the following measures:

- All local senior centers and lunch centers have been closed until further notice.
- All home visits by TCOA have been cancelled.
- Senior citizens who receive home delivered meals will continue to receive home delivered
  meals and all senior citizens who utilized the senior centers and lunch centers for meals
  and are in need of meals will be added to the home delivery list to receive meals.
- All senior center and lunch center managers will conduct check-up calls to registered senior citizens every other day.
- All information and assistance requests will be conducted via telephone. If a senior citizen needs information or assistance, they should call the Council on Aging office at 985-868-8411.
- All assessments for senior citizens will be conducted by telephone.

## Parish Museums Open to the Public

The Terrebonne Parish Waterlife and Folklife museums are open to the public but limited to 25% occupancy and strict social distancing within the museum.

## Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Court Information

Effective May 18, 2020, The Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Court's office began operating at full staff Monday thru Thursday from 8:30AM to 4:30PM and Friday from 8:30AM to Noon. The public is allowed into the Clerk of Courts office up to 25% capacity of the office and you must wear a face mask or cloth face covering. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.terrebonneclerk.org">www.terrebonneclerk.org</a>.

## Terrebonne Parish Assessor's Office

The Terrebonne Parish Assessor's Office hours are from 8:00AM to 4PM, Monday through Thursday. The office will be closed on Fridays. These hours will be in effect until further notice. The office is still closed to the public at this time.

# Terrebonne Economic Development Authority

The Terrebonne Economic Development Authority hours are from 8AM to 4:30PM, Monday thru Thursday. The office is closed on Fridays. A centralized call system for business questions related to the coronavirus has been activated and may be reached by dialing 985-633-1887 between the hours of 8AM to 4:30PM. Businesses can email questions to <a href="mailto:bizresponse@tpeda.org">bizresponse@tpeda.org</a>. The office is still closed to the public at this time.

## Houma-Terrebonne Airport Commission

- The airport remains open as published in FAA Form 5010 and per applicable NOTAMS.
- HTAC Public meeting attendees will follow instructions as published in the meeting announcement. There will be a limited number of individuals allowed in the HTAC Meeting Room at one time and all persons entering the meeting room must wear a mask and abide by the social distancing guidelines. The airport commission office waiting area is closed. Enter through the meeting room door and follow instructions of staff.
- Lessees desiring to pay rent in person can deposit payments and correspondence in the outside drop box at the office.
- An airport manager (rotating) + one office assistant (rotating) will be available at the office Monday through Thursday during normal business hours. Remaining staff will remain available via telephone and email.
- The office will be closed each Friday (weekly) for a thorough disinfecting. All staff is also available during disinfecting for normal business via telephone and email.
- All airfield maintenance (grass, concrete, lighting, electronics, instrument landing systems, AWOS/ATIS, etc.) will continue as normal.
- The control tower has been reduced to one controller in the tower + one team member in the tower office. Assuming no decline in the number of fit-for-duty tower controllers, normal published tower hours of operation can be sustained.
- If controller illness eventually results in absences, reduced tower hours of operation (if necessary) will be published in NOTAMS.

# Opening Up Terrebonne Parish – Phase I Guidelines for Individuals and Businesses

Effective today, Governor John Bel Edwards' formally declared Louisiana into Phase One of its Roadmap to a Resilient Louisiana by lifting the Stay at Home order and allowing more businesses

to open with strict social distancing, enhanced sanitation and required masks for employees helping the public. Through an order signed on May 14, 2020, the Governor specified that Louisianans should still stay at home as much as possible to avoid unnecessary exposure to COVID-19. Those individuals who are at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should still stay home unless they are traveling outside of the home for an essential activity, like obtaining food, medicine or medical care.

In an effort to protect your employees and your customers, the Terrebonne Parish President Gordon Dove is requiring all businesses to follow Governor of Louisiana, John Bel Edwards, proclamation dated May 14, 2020 (Proclamation Number 58 JBE 2020) guidelines published for your particular business by the State of Louisiana, State Fire Marshal's Office which can be found at the following webpage: <a href="https://opensafely.la.gov">https://opensafely.la.gov</a>, then clicking on "Download Phase One Documents". A copy of Governor Edwards' new order, 58 JBE 2020, is located at the following website: <a href="https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/Proclamations/2020/58-JBE-2020.pdf">https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/Proclamations/2020/58-JBE-2020.pdf</a>. All business owners should familiarize themselves with all the requirements in the Governor's order and the guidelines produced by the La. State Fire Marshal's office.

"I am requesting that residents, employees and employers use a "common sense" approach to wearing face masks and cloth face covering," said Parish President Dove. "I encourage everyone to wear a mask when out in public, to protect yourself, your family, your coworkers and your neighbors. When you wear a mask, you protect others, and when other wear a mask, they protect you."

Parish President Dove prepared a document entitled "Opening Up Terrebonne Parish – Phase I Guidelines for Individuals and Business" that describes which businesses are prohibited from opening in Phase I, guidelines for individuals and general business requirements for businesses that can open under Phase I. A copy of the Parish document is located at www.tohsep.com/news/covid19.

New types of businesses that may open beginning today, with 25 percent occupancy limits, sanitation guidelines and spacing for physical distancing include:

Restaurants, cafes and coffee shops
Shopping malls
Gyms and fitness centers
Barber and beauty shops, and nail salons
Movie theaters
Racetracks (not open to spectators)
Museums, zoos, aquariums (no tactile exhibits)
Bars and breweries with Louisiana Department of Health food permits

Casinos and video poker establishments may open on May 18, at 25 percent occupancy and with 50 percent of their gaming positions, spaced out to allow for social distancing and with enhanced

sanitation. Gaming facilities must have a plan approved by the Gaming Control Board prior to reopening.

The following businesses remain closed: massage establishments and spas, tattoo parlors, carnivals, amusement parks, water parks, trampoline parks, arcades, fairs, bars and breweries without LDH food permits, pool halls, bowling alleys, contact sports, children's play centers, playgrounds, theme parks, adult entertainment venues, and other similar businesses such as bounce houses and water slides.

Other activities allowed with strict guidelines that may be found at <a href="https://opensafely.la.gov">https://opensafely.la.gov</a> include the following:

Outdoor Sports Libraries Places of Worship

# Registrar of Voters Information

On Monday, May 18, 2020, the Terrebonne Parish Registrar of Voters will resume normal business hours from 8AM to 4:30PM, Monday through Thursday. Anyone entering the office should wear a mask and is expected to follow the social distancing guidelines. The public can contact the office by calling 985-873-6533 or via email at <a href="mailto:terrebonnerov@sos.la.gov">terrebonnerov@sos.la.gov</a>. Election and registration information can be found on sos.la.gov or <a href="mailto:geauxyote.com">geauxyote.com</a>.

#### City Court of Houma

Per the Louisiana Supreme Court's order dated May 15, 2020 and the Governor's Proclamation Number 59 JBE 2020 dated May 14, 2020, all hearings in person for Juvenile and Criminal matters will resume on Monday, May 18, 2020. There will be a limited number of individuals allowed in the courthouse at one time and all persons entering the courthouse must wear a mask and abide by the social distancing guidelines.

The Civil Department continues to be open for filing. However, per the Louisiana Supreme Court, evictions and Civil hearings will not be able to be processed until at least Monday, June 8, 2020. Individuals should call the Civil Department at 873-6337 for further instructions. Individuals scheduled for Adult Arraignments on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> or May 6<sup>th</sup> should appear for their court hearing on Wednesday, May 20, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

In person payments for traffic tickets, fines, etc. will resume Monday, May 18, 2020. People are still encouraged to go to <a href="www.houmatix.com">www.houmatix.com</a> to see if they can pay their traffic ticket online. Payments can also be made over the phone with a credit/debit card by calling the Misdemeanor/Traffic Department at 868-4361.

Phone payments for juvenile matters can be made to the Juvenile Department at 873-6338. Individuals on a payment plan who have questions can call the Court Compliance Department at 873-6332/6335.

# 32<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District Court System Information

All 32<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Courts will be in session Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9AM.

If you are scheduled to appear in court next week, please wear a face mask or cloth face covering.

All civil and criminal jury trials are cancelled through Tuesday June 30, 2020. Jurors who have been notified to appear through June 30, 2020 are dismissed.

32<sup>nd</sup> Judicial District traffic tickets can be paid at the courthouse or online at tpda.org.

# Terrebonne Parish Government Information

The Terrebonne Parish Government Tower continues to be closed to the public until further notice. The Government Tower's drive-thru lanes, located on Gabasse Street, are open for public use to drop off documents, applications, and utility payments Monday through Thursday from 8AM to 4:00PM. Government Tower, including the drive-thru lanes will be closed on Fridays, until further notice, to all Parish employees and the public. This will allow for the Government Tower to be disinfected on a weekly basis. The public is requested to utilize the utility drop box, located in the drive-thru area of the Gabasse Street parking lot, to drop off utility payments, documents, and applications on Fridays.

The Terrebonne Parish switchboard is operating with normal business hours, Monday through Thursday. The parish's answering service will receive calls on Fridays during the closure of the Government Tower and direct calls to the appropriate department. After-hours calls and weekend calls will continue to be answered by the parish's answering service.

All Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government services will continue to be provided during this event.

Trade and building permits can be applied for by using the Gabasse Street parking garage, Lane #4. You can also apply online at <a href="tpcg.org/permits/apply">tpcg.org/permits/apply</a>.

Customers wishing to pay their utility bills should use the drive thru service, Monday thru Thursday, from 8AM to 4PM. Utility bills may also be paid online at <a href="https://www.mytpcg.org">www.mytpcg.org</a> or by telephone by calling 844-331-8341.

All Terrebonne Parish departments and facilities are limiting visitor access. Citizens are advised to use online services at tpcg.org or call the particular department you need to access. Citizens needing to make utility payments or drop off other items and documents are asked to use the drive-thru lanes on Gabasse Street parking lot. Before visiting any Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government facility, please call to confirm visitation requirements.

- All Terrebonne Parish sponsored events have been cancelled that may exceed 10 people.
- All Terrebonne Parish Recreation (TPR) events have been postponed until further notice.

 The Live After 5 event scheduled for Downtown Houma have been postponed until further notice.

## Terrebonne Parish Library Information:

As of May 4, 2020, the library began providing curbside service at all branches. The main library, East Houma and North Branches are providing the service from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday to Thursday. The bayou branches have limited hours, so customers need to call the branch. The reference staff at the main library will answer questions during the same hours and same days; the phone number is 985-876-5861, ext. 201. Only books, DVDs, magazines, and books on tape will be circulated. At this time no other services will be available. The library staff is sanitizing returned items and cleaning the facilities.

Donated items will not be accepted at this time.

The Terrebonne Parish Library offers many e-services to cardholders that can be accessed from home. This includes eBooks, online magazines, Hoopla, streaming services, and various databases such as TumbleBooks, Homework Louisiana, Learning Express, and World Book Online. During this time, patrons are allowed to check out up to 10 eBooks at a time versus the standard 5. For patrons who do not yet have a library card, there is now an online sign-up option that can be found on the home page at <a href="mytpl.org">mytpl.org</a>. Patrons are encouraged to follow the <a href="Terrebonne Parish Library System Facebook page">Terrebonne Parish Library System Facebook page</a> for updates and may also leave messages to the page for any questions they may have.

# **Good Earth Transit System (Bus Service)**

The Good Earth Transit System (bus service) ceased all regular bus services on Friday, April 3, 2020 until further notice. The Good Earth Transit System will continue to operate the paratransit system in Terrebonne Parish for those individuals who have been issued Paratransit Identification Cards.

# **Regional Military Museum**

The Regional Military Museum in Houma is closed for tours, visitors, and volunteers until further notice.

#### Terrebonne United Churches Food Bank Information

The Terrebonne United Churches Food Bank is in need of volunteers to help with food distribution. If you are interested in helping, please call Mr. Lawrence Dehart at 985-851-5523.

The Terrebonne Churches United Food Bank in Houma is open and distributing food to those in need. The food bank is open from 8:30AM to noon on Monday and Saturday and from 12:30PM to 4PM on Wednesday. Service to the homeless is provided on Thursdays from 8:30AM to noon. The TCU Food Bank office hours are from 8AM to 3PM, Monday through Friday. A photo ID and proof of residency is required to determine eligibility. Each family that qualifies will get enough fool to assist them for 3 weeks. For more information or assistance, please call the TCU Food Bank at 985-851-5523 or visit their website at tcufoodbank.org.

The TCU Food Bank is now a drive-by food pick up program. This will be the primary method we will use to distribute food due to the COVID-19 until Wednesday, June 10, 2020, at which time the TCU Food Bank will re-access the situation and determine the best course of act to those in need. Here is how the plan will work:

One hour before our normal distribution times, those in need may line up in their vehicles on Commerce Street entering from Lafayette Street. Vehicles will need to line up on the extreme right side of Commerce Street. We ask that vehicles pull all the way up to the stop sign at intersection of Church Street and Commerce street. Once the process begins, a screener will approach your vehicle and ask you a few questions though your driver side window. Once the brief screening process is complete you will be asked to pull around to Magnolia Street to a section clearly marked in front of the food bank. Once in that section, you will simply have to unlatch your trunk, and someone will load the food items in your trunk and close it. Then you will safely reenter Magnolia Street and exit on Lafayette Street. You will not exit your car at any time though this process. There will be signs providing directions all along the route.

#### Mental Health Services

The following mental health clinics and agencies are currently open and serving clients as needed:

- Terrebonne Mental Health 985-857-3615
- START Community Health Center 985-333-2020
- Teche Action Clinic 985-851-1717
- Beacon Behavioral Clinic 985-346-0436

Anyone needing mental health assistance can call the South Central Louisiana Human Health Services Crisis Assist Link Line (CALL) 24 hours a day to speak to a licensed social worker at 877-500-9997. The Louisiana Department of Health has the "Keep Calm thru COVID" hotline open 24 hours a day and can be reached at 866-310-7977. All calls are confidential.

## Small Business Assistance

The U. S. Small Business Administration has declared that all small businesses in Louisiana are eligible for COVID-19 business assistance. To get started immediately, visit SBA.gov/disaster. SBA offers three-step process for disaster **loans** а at disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/Documents/Three Step Process SBA Disaster Loans.pdf. The Louisiana Economic Development is also offering COVID-19 Business Resources at opportunitylouisiana.com/covid-19-assistance, an online guide to assistance available for impacted businesses. Look for updates to the guide at OpportunityLouisiana.com.

# Terrebonne Parish School District Feeding Program

The Terrebonne Parish School District will continue to provide free "Grab and Go" lunches during the "Stay at Home" order, Monday through Friday from 11AM to 1PM. All Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students (public and private school students) and any student with disabilities up to age 22 can

receive a meal. Students must be present to be served a meal. No student ID is required. Meals will continue through the summer.

Meals can be picked up at the closest Terrebonne Parish School District high school located to your home. For schools where it is safe, students may walk up to the school to receive a meal. Students arriving by a vehicle should remain in their vehicle.

- Ellender Memorial High School Meal distribution will be in the front of the school main entrance.
- H.L. Bourgeois High School Meal distribution will be in the front parking lot/main entrance.
- South Terrebonne High School Meal distribution will be in the front of the school.
- Terrebonne High School Meal distribution will be in the bus circle. Enter on St. Charles Street.

## Terrebonne ARC

Terrebonne ARC (TARC) has closed ALL operations, including stores, until further notice.

# Louisiana Workforce Commission Information

Residents needing information regarding unemployment compensation should contact the Louisiana Workforce Commission at 985-876-8990, 800-351-4378, 866-783-5567 or visit the local office at 807 Barrow Street (Town Hall Building) in Houma.

# <u>Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 – Terrebonne Parish Information:</u>

The Consolidated Waterworks District No. 1 office lobby at 8814 Main Street will be closed to the general public. Drive-thru windows will be open normal hours, 8AM to 5PM Monday through Friday, for paying your water bill or conducting other business. You may contact the office at 985-879-2495 or via their website at <a href="mailto:tpcw.org">tpcw.org</a>. Please follow their <a href="mailto:Facebook page">Facebook page</a> for up-to-date information.

#### 2020 Census

Getting an accurate census count is essential for the parish. The census determines the allocation of representatives to serve in the legislative bodies of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Louisiana State Legislature, and within voting districts. Census information is also used to distribute more than \$675 billion in federal funds annually to support schools, hospitals, fire departments, road improvements, public works, and other social services.

To take the census, visit <a href="www.countdabayou.org">www.countdabayou.org</a> and click on "Take the Census" and you will be directed to the U.S. Census 2020 page to complete your census questionnaire that will only take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

For the most updated information regarding COVID-19, residents can do the following:

• Dial 211 and ask a question. • Text LACOVID to 898-211 • Visit LA211help.org.