

4/5/2020

### Gillespie County reports third case of COVID-19

Gillespie County is reporting the third case of COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus, in a county resident. The individual is currently isolating at home. It has been determined that the case is associated with community transmission of the virus.

The Texas Department of State Health Services is supporting Gillespie County in identifying any close contacts of the patient while sick, so they can be isolated and monitored for symptoms and quickly tested, if needed. Gillespie County currently has two active cases and one recovered case.

Gillespie County Judge Mark Stroehler is commending residents for self-isolating and only going out when absolutely necessary. “County residents are helping each other by keeping travel to a minimum and practicing social distancing. The only way to overcome this virus is by following the CDC recommendations and helping each other through this difficult time.”

There are things everyone can do to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Minimizing exposure is especially important for people who are 65 or older or who have an underlying health condition like heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, high blood pressure or cancer. People in those groups have a higher risk of developing severe disease if they do get COVID-19, and the safest thing for them during an outbreak will be to stay home as much as possible and minimize close contact with other people. To get ready, they should talk to their doctor about getting additional prescription medications and have enough household items and groceries on hand to stay home as needed.

The public can find up-to-date coronavirus information at [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus).