BASTROP COUNTY UPDATE ON COVID-19 VIRUS

Through our Office of Emergency Management, Bastrop County officials are staying in touch with our local health authority as well as state and federal health agencies regarding the COVID-19 virus. We continue daily seeking the most up-to-date information in our efforts to keep our citizens informed and healthy.

At this time, the only 2019 coronavirus disease cases confirmed in Texas have been in travelers returning from abroad. They remain under federal quarantine in San Antonio. Others around the state are being monitored for symptoms. For us here in Bastrop County, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low.

The best way to prevent infection is to take precautions to avoid exposure to this virus, which are similar to the precautions you take to avoid the flu. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends these everyday actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- 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 throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces.

Bastrop County officials and the Office of Emergency Management will continue to monitor the situation and keep the public informed. For up-to-date information on the COVID-19 virus, please visit the Texas Department of State Health Services website at https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/ .