



HARRIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT NOTICE OF CLOSURES & OPERATIONS

STATUS: MOST COUNTY OFFICES ARE OPEN

Updated: August 3, 2020

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Most Harris County government offices are currently open during normal business hours to serve the citizens and are operating on a day-to-day basis during these hectic and turbulent times. Various precautions have been taken to minimize risks to county employees and citizens such as hand washing, providing hand sanitizer, disinfecting surfaces, equipment, and vehicles, social distancing, minimizing public meetings and large events, encouraging people to wear masks, stay home, and use on-line services to pay water bills and vehicle license tags, limiting access to public buildings, installing glass barriers, and staying abreast of current information and trends regarding this pandemic. Based on constantly changing information, the county will decide on a day-by-day basis on how it will operate.

NEW STATE DECLARATIONS

- Chief Judge of the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit, Bemon McBride, issued an order for the entire judicial circuit including Harris County regarding in-person court proceedings that began on Tues. July 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This judicial order covers video conferencing, access to court facilities and the entire courthouse, use of personal protective equipment, contact tracing, social distancing, among other items. Please read the judicial order for more details. For more information or questions, contact the Clerk of Superior Court's Office at 706-628-4944.
- Gov. Kemp has extended the Declaration of Public Health State of Emergency until September 10.
- Gov. Kemp has issued another Executive Order effective until August 15, 2020 regarding guidelines for Sheltering in Place, Restaurants and Dining Services, Industry, Commerce, Organizations, and Non-Profits, Healthcare, Education & Children, Governments, Sports & Live Performance Venues, Conventions, and Enforcement of the state guidelines. Here is the link to Gov. Kemp's Executive

Orders <https://gov.georgia.gov/executive-action/executive-orders/2020-executive-orders>

- Chief Justice Melton has issued another Judicial Order extending the state-wide Judicial State of Emergency to August 11. This order postpones criminal and civil jury trials and most grand jury proceedings.

CURRENT OPENINGS

The Courthouse, Administration Building, Community Development, Water Works Customer Service, Public Works, Animal Control, Parks, Community Center, and Extension Service are open to the public but with limitations. For more information, call each of the offices:

- Clerk of Superior Court – 706-628-4944
- Probate Court – 706-628-5038
- Magistrate Court – 706-628-4977 or 706-628-5876
- Tax Commissioner – 706-628-4843 / 706-628-5399
- Tax Assessor – 706-628-5171
- District Attorney – 706-628-4080
- Administration Building – 706-628-4958
- Community Development – 706-628-4700
- Water Works Customer Service – 706-324-1175
- Public Works – 706-628-5850
- Animal Control – 706-582-2763
- Community Center/Parks – 706-488-0000 (see last page for limitations)
- UGA Extension Service including Club House for rentals – 706-628-4824
- Ag Building for rentals – 706-628-4958

The next commission meeting is Tuesday, August 4 at 7:00 p.m. The August 4 commission meeting will be a live in-person meeting at the courthouse, Room 223, and a call-in audio meeting. The call-in numbers for the August 4 meeting are below.

Telephone Number: 408-418-9388

Access Code: 132 531 0375#

Meeting Password: 70662877#

The Library has resumed regular hours. Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed Sunday. Senior hour is from

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Curbside service is available upon request. A maximum of 20 patrons will be allowed at any one time, masks are optional, temperatures will be taken upon entry, a limited number of computers will be available, and meeting rooms and study rooms will be available beginning Aug. 17. Call the Library for more information: 706-628-4685.

CURRENT CLOSURES

- Senior Citizens Center has postponed programming until further notice.
- Jail and Prison are closed to the public and not allowing visitors until further notice.

HARRIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FREE COVID-19 DRIVE-UP SCREENING

The Harris County Health Department is performing free COVID-19 drive-up screenings on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. by appointment only at the Harris County Health Department, 210 Forest Hill Drive in Hamilton. Call 706-321-6300 and use Option 1 or go to www.westcentralhealthdistrict.com to schedule an appointment. Call the Harris County Health Department for more information and schedule changes: 706-628-5780.

IMPORTANT WEBSITES

- [Center for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/)
- [Georgia Department of Public Health](https://www.dph.ga.gov/)



Harris County Parks & Recreation Department and Community Center Information

706-488-0000

County Parks

- All county parks (Pate Park, Moultrie Park, Soccer Complex, and Pine Mountain Valley Park) including tennis courts, basketball courts, walking trails, athletic fields, and pavilions are open for individual and family use from dawn to dusk.
- Playgrounds are now opened.
- Restrooms are now opened, only two people allowed at any one time.
- Organized sports play and practices, except for tackle football, can proceed with their Fall sports schedule in accordance with the Return to Play Plans approved by the Recreation Department.
- Please adhere to state issued guidelines including social distancing, hand washing, wearing masks and other personal protective equipment, staying home if sick, etc.

Community Center - By Reservation

- Community Center is open with limited hours and using a reservation system. The hours are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., closed Saturday and Sunday for cleaning. For reservations to use the pool, fitness center, and gymnasium, call 706-488-0000 during operational hours.
- Upon entering, non-touch temperature screenings will be performed on all visitors. If temperature is 100.5 or over or if exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, admittance to the Community Center will not be allowed.
- Pool – max of 8 people in the pool and a max of 8 people in the play pool area. Only one swimmer per lane unless they live in the same household. No pool toys allowed (i.e. swim boards, noodles, etc.).
- Fitness Center – max of 8 people 16 years of age and over.
- Gymnasium – pickle ball and pick-up games only (basketball and volleyball). Basketball is Mondays-Wednesdays-Fridays and volleyball is Tuesdays and Thursdays. Bring own ball. No organized games.
- Conference/class room are now available to rent and use. Call Community Center for details.
- Water aerobics and swim classes are now offered. Call Community Center for details.
- No locker rooms are available.
- No water fountains are available. Bring own water bottle.
- Please adhere to state issued guidelines including social distancing, hand washing, wearing masks and other personal protective equipment, staying home if sick, etc.

These guidelines will be re-evaluated when Gov. Kemp's Executive Order expires on Aug. 15, 2020.

Revised: Aug. 3, 2020

