



County Commission of St. Francois County

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Once again, our Country is embroiled in a war of world-wide proportions. As in those two previous World Wars we did not start this one but will certainly be instrumental in ending it. Our citizens have done a wonderful job of defending us against this unseen enemy. Now it is time to go on the offensive.

We are waiting for final word from the Governor as to the rules we all must follow. He has promised to update them on May 3 and there is a strong belief that he will allow businesses to reopen on May 4th. Those new rules will almost certainly contain aspects of the following.

Whether you own a restaurant, a salon or a barber shop you will be required to maintain spacing with a limited number of people in your building. Group sizes at tables will be limited with space requirements between those tables. Limited contact between the server and customers (or worker-to-client) will be needed.

The use of gloves and masks will be encouraged and in some cases required. Checkout and the handling of cash should be streamlined and waiting areas should be minimized.

If something is touched, clean it—and on a regular basis. Keep the table tops clear of condiments or anything that could harbor disease. Menus must be cleaned between customers or be disposable. Make hand sanitizer readily available and strictly enforce hand washing rules among the staff.

We are fairly certain that buffet lines are NOT going to be allowed for now. Cafeteria lines are a possibility, but nothing self-serve. Salons should have adequate space between stations and completely sanitize all tools between customers. In all of the above, do not allow sick people in your building!

If we are too lax in this startup, the virus could once again build. This would force us to go back to the Stay-at-Home rules and none of us wants that!

It is important that we stay on the defense against this enemy as we fight back. Our defensive plans include more testing and assuring adequate medical assistance is available at all times. This next move is to go on the economic offense. Using a planned and sensible program, we will start allowing our many businesses to reopen and once again serve the public. We know you have undergone some trying times. A proper startup will help all of us as we progress toward the future.