



Coronaviruses (CoV) are a large family of viruses that range from the common cold to the [Middle East Respiratory Syndrome \(MERS-CoV\)](#) and [Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome \(SARS-CoV\)](#).

As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak evolves, the CDC strongly encourages businesses, cities, school districts, and event organizers to prepare for the possibility of outbreaks in our East Texas communities.

**Municipalities, Businesses, Schools, and Cities should consider plans for the following situations:**

- Emergency Management Plans are current & those responsible have situational awareness
- Standard Viral Respiratory precautions and PPE apply (healthcare)
- Long Term Care Facilities and Patient-Intake facilities should replicate response to a flu outbreak
- Review & update your Continuity Of Operations Plans (COOP)
- Prepare their capacity for work to be done remotely
- Consider when to close facilities and/or cancel events
- Conduct information campaigns for your employees and customers/clients
- Provide your PIO's contact information to the East Texas PIO Network, in preparation of a Joint Information Center to be the central resource of coordinated public communications
- Absenteeism procedures should follow your agency's guidance on closures (similar to flu)

**Updates from the CDC and from DSHS are available on their websites**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus>

**Local inventory of state and national updates are available on NET Health's website below:**

**[MyNETHealth.org > Services > Public Emergency Preparedness > Coronavirus](#)**