

# BernCo at a Glance E-newsletter

Volume 3 | May 19, 2020



County offices will be **CLOSED** on Monday, May 25  
in observance of Memorial Day

## CORONAVIRUS [COVID-19]

BERNALILLO COUNTY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

[Click to visit website](#)

### New Public Health Order Eases Restrictions Extended through May 31

- Foremost, please stay home if you are sick. Period.
- If you go out, wear a face mask
- Practice social distancing -- be aware of your surroundings and others near you
- Adhere to the six-foot rule and stay at home except as needed for grocery shopping, medical assistance and exercise
- Limit group contact to five or fewer people
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash

#### WHAT REMAINS THE SAME:

- New Mexicans must remain home except for outings essential for health, safety and welfare, especially elderly and vulnerable individuals. If you must leave home, gatherings of more than five people remain prohibited and six feet of physical distance from others must be maintained.
- Locations and services where high-intensity contact is unavoidable — such as gyms, salons, indoor malls, tattoo parlors and dine-in service at restaurants and bars — remain temporarily closed. Limited in-person operations for those types of businesses could be included in the next modification of the public health order, as soon as early June, depending on New Mexico's rate of COVID-19 transmission, testing capacity and other gating criteria.
- Other high-intensity contact services that must remain closed include indoor malls, massage and tattoo parlors, theaters, casinos.
- A 14-day quarantine order remains in place for out-of-state airport arrivals.
- Vacation rentals are prohibited to out-of-state residents.
- Visits to long-term care and other congregate care facilities remain

restricted.

#### WHAT CHANGED BEGINNING MAY 16:

- All retailers may operate according to COVID-Safe Practices (“CSPs”) at 25% fire code occupancy. (A “retailer” is any business that sells goods directly to the ultimate consumer or end-users and does not include wholesalers or suppliers, not does it include entertainment venues such as movie theaters, concert halls, or amusement parks);
- Large retailers like big-box stores and grocery stores may also operate at 25% capacity as determined by fire code.
- Non-essential businesses (other than retailers; such as office spaces, call centers) generally may operate according to CSPs at up to 25% of pre-crisis staffing levels. All employees should continue to work from home wherever possible;
- Houses of worship may operate at 25% occupancy;
- Masks will be required of everyone in public places, with exceptions for eating, drinking and exercising and medical requirements.

#### New Mexico Department of Health:

- New Mexicans with COVID-19 related questions should call the coronavirus hotline at 855-600-3453
- Non-COVID-19 related questions or concerns, call 833-551-0518
- **\*\*\*[NMDOH COVID-19 Public Dashboard](#)** -- the data dashboard includes county-by-county breakdowns of positive cases by age, gender and ethnicity.

Up-to-date information about state mandates and information:

[www.newmexico.gov](http://www.newmexico.gov).

Information and resources from the CDC regarding coronavirus COVID-19:

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov).

CDC fact sheets to read and/or download,

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

[NMConnect smartphone app for all New Mexicans](#) (click to learn more)

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## Outdoor Fire Safety in Public Open Areas

Please keep these tips in mind for enjoyable outdoor and trail experiences during fire season:

- Before you go, check with public land management agencies for fire restrictions or area closures. **Check out current National Park Service alerts.**
  - Plan ahead and prepare. **Prepare a trip plan,** let someone else know where you are going, sign in at the trail-head, know your route and be sure to know how to get out! **For more information on trip planning, check out this guide.**
  - **Check the forecast before you go.** While recreating, watch for sudden changes in the weather or changing weather conditions. For example, if a thunderstorm is seen or heard approaching, consider leaving the area.
  - **Do not drive a car or ATV nor park in tall, dry vegetation** such as grass. The hot underside of the vehicle may start a fire.
  - **If you see smoke, fire, or suspicious activities, note the location** as best as possible and report it to authorities (such as a ranger) or **call 911**. Do NOT attempt to contact suspicious people or try to put out a fire yourself.
  - **If you see a wildland fire,** report its location to authorities (such as a ranger) or **call 911**. Avoid traveling near it.
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# BernCo Parks and Recreation Summer Schedule Remains the Same

In an effort to keep Bernalillo County residents and county employees safe during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, most summer programs have been cancelled and outdoor swimming pools will not open.

The following is a schedule of open and closed facilities and cancelled events and programs:

## **OPEN:**

Rio Grande Pool (opening date and operating hours to be determined)

- Limited swimmers in facilities
- No spectators
- Social distancing will be observed
- Modified adult swim programming:
  - Lap swim only (no congregating and social distancing must be maintained)
  - Adult water exercise
- NO OPEN RECREATIONAL SWIM

**Grab-n-go lunches will continue at the community centers. Additional locations will be added as the summer lunch program begins.**

**Summer Lunch Program begins Wednesday, May 27 at 22 sites throughout the county. Check next week for more info at [www.BernCo.gov/SummerLunch](http://www.BernCo.gov/SummerLunch).**

## **CLOSED AND CANCELLED:**

- ALL outdoor swimming pools
- Community centers
- Summer sports leagues (youth basketball and adult softball)
- Jimmy Nieto Softball Tournament
- New Mexico Recreation & Park Association state conference in Albuquerque

The county Parks and Recreation Department is re-branding for the summer of 2020 with the slogan,

## **“Recreating Recreation to Virtual Involvement for a Healthier and Safer Community Experience”**

While the county is not offering traditional summer camps, “virtual camps” are being set up to offer zoom classes for exercise, art instruction, music classes and more. The county will also offer grab-n-go art kits that kids can use at home.

Any resident who has already paid for a summer program or camp is entitled to a refund or credit toward another program/season. Information about refunds/credits is at:  
<https://www.bernco.gov/uploads/files/ParksRecreation/CREDIT%20or%20REFUND.pdf>.

Information about available summer programming opportunities through Bernalillo County Parks, Recreation and Open Space can be found at:  
<https://www.bernco.gov/community-services/parks-recreation.aspx>

Rio Grande Pool information: <https://www.bernco.gov/community-services/swimming-pools-spray-parks.aspx>

## [Schedule of BernCo Office Hours and Public Access](#)

## **Recent BernCo News Releases**

*(click each news release below to read in full)*

[BernCo Follows Governor’s Orders, Continues Tele-work](#)

Bernalillo County will allow staffing up to 25% of regular staffing levels in departments but those departments must follow Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's public health orders and encourage public adherence as follows:

- Vendors and contractors and general public will be required to wear masks while in county facilities.
- Meetings will be conducted virtually whenever possible. When in-person meetings are necessary, social distancing of at least six feet will be observed at all times
- County employees that are equipped and directed to tele-work or remote-work will continue to do so
- Employees shall avoid hosting meetings with visitors, including county employees, within their individual workspaces – the use of common areas and meeting spaces will be utilized when possible and all attending shall be wearing facemasks and observing social distancing
- Departments shall offer hand sanitizer at reception desks and customer service areas

#### [County Conducting Virtual Food Safety Checks](#)

Bernalillo County food safety inspectors are still on the job and conducting food safety checks via the web or by phone. The checks are non-binding and are not inspections, but are an effort to ensure that all restaurants still operating during the coronavirus (COVID-19) health emergency are maintaining proper safety standards and following the public health order.

#### [Annual Notices of Value Sent to Property Owners](#)

Notice of Value statements have been mailed to property owners, showing the appraised value for their real property, residential and manufactured homes, and non-residential, commercial and vacant land in Bernalillo County. Property owners who disagree with the appraised value of property have 30 days to appeal. The deadline to file a protest form with the Assessor's Office is May 29.

#### [Office of the Assessor Wants to Remind Property Owners of Available Exemptions](#)

Property owners who have not taken advantage of the head of family, veteran or 100% disabled veteran exemptions and the value freeze program, must do so no later than 30 days after the mailing of the notice of value (NOV) statements.

#### [BernCo Accepts CARES Grant -- County Distribution is \\$31.8 Million](#)

CARES payments to states, local, and tribal governments are designed to offset the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

#### [BernCo Funding to Assist Small Businesses](#)

Plans are being made and money has been approved by the Bernalillo County Commission to fund local organizations who will, in turn, assist small businesses with advice and direction, as unincorporated area businesses prepare to reopen post coronavirus (COVID-19). The commission approved \$500,000 from the county general fund for Economic Development programming to aid small businesses in the unincorporated areas of the county.

#### [Bernalillo County - We're Here for You During COVID-19](#)

The county's CARE campus is still operating, with reduced staff, to provide 24/7 services for behavioral health. The CARE campus provides a variety of programs to reduce the impact of alcoholism, substance abuse, and behavioral health needs within the community. The campus is located at 5901 Zuni, and more information is available at [www.bernco.gov/dbhs](http://www.bernco.gov/dbhs).

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## Community Resources and Information

### **BernCo Serves Grab-and-Go Breakfasts and Lunches**

**Cost: Meals are free**

BernCo is serving 'grab-and-go' breakfasts and lunches at six county locations. Parents drive-up to the community center with their children in the vehicle and center staff give a breakfast and lunch for each child requested.

Meals are served Mondays – Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (grab and go only):

- Mt. View Community Center
- Paradise Hills Community Center
- Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center
- South Valley Multipurpose Center
- Vista Grande Community Center

- Westside Community Center

**Summer Lunch Program to begin Wednesday, May 27 at over 22 sites throughout the county.** Check next week for more details about locations and hours at [www.BernCo.gov/SummerLunch](http://www.BernCo.gov/SummerLunch).

### Stimulus Checks

IRS Get My Payment, <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/get-my-payment>

### US Census 2020

How to Respond, <https://2020census.gov/>

[Safety Tips for Shopping](#) -- Tip sheet (English)

[Safety Tips for Shopping](#) -- Tip sheet (Spanish)

[How to Properly Clean Your Groceries](#) -- Tip sheet

[Don't Bring Coronavirus Home with You](#) -- Tip sheet

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## 2020 Primary Election: Early Voting Happening Now

[Early voting sites/locations here.](#)

Voters may request an absentee ballot online [here](#).

Last day to request an absentee ballot for the primary election is [May 28](#).

New Mexico has a closed primary election system. To vote in the 2020 Primary Election, one must be a registered Democrat, Republican or Libertarian.



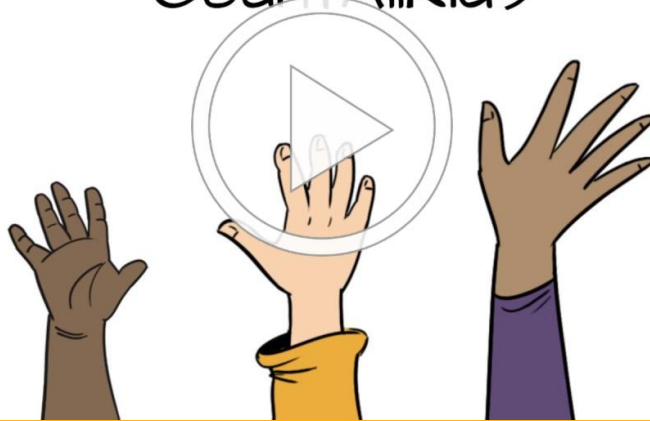
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## Complete the 2020 Census Today!

It takes less than 10 minutes to shape our next 10 years!

Fastest and easiest way -- go online to [www.2020Census.gov](http://www.2020Census.gov)

#CountAllKids



## Local Growers Offer 'Farm to Car'

Local growers and farmers will be offering pre-order of your favorite fruits and vegetables for both the Rail Yards Market,

<http://railyardsmarket.org/> and the Downtown Grower's Market,

<http://www.downtowngrowers.org/>.

Visit their websites for pre-ordering instructions. Curbside pickup allows for proper social distancing.

Vendors will be updated weekly.



# THERE IS NO POOP FAIRY SCOOP YOUR POOP



**GRAB IT  
BAG IT  
TOSS IT**



BERNALILLO COUNTY  
WE'RE MORE THAN YOU THINK

Thank you for reading BernCo at a Glance

## For assistance, please contact:

- Metropolitan Detention Center (general inmate info): (505) 839-8700
- Roads and traffic: (505) 848-1504 or (505) 848-1503
- Animal Care Services: (505) 468-PETS
- Property Maintenance (report a park or facility that needs cleanup): (505) 224-2119
- Schedule a large item pick-up: (505) 892-1200
- Department of Behavioral Health Services customer service: (505) 468-1555
- Court of Wills, Estates and Probate (general info): (505) 468-1232
  - Schedule an appointment: call (505) 468-1229 or email, [probate@bernco.gov](mailto:probate@bernco.gov)
- Unclaimed & Indigent Cremation Program: (505) 468-7295
- Accounts Payable general inquiries: (505) 468-7020
- All other calls: (505) 468-7777 or email, [contactcenter@bernco.gov](mailto:contactcenter@bernco.gov)

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- [Glyphosate Moratorium](#)

Website: [www.BernCo.gov](http://www.BernCo.gov) | Email: [info@BernCo.gov](mailto:info@BernCo.gov)