



BernCo at a Glance E-newsletter

Volume 3 | May 27, 2020



CORONAVIRUS [COVID-19]

BERNALILLO COUNTY INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

[Click to visit website](#)

www.BernCo.gov/coronavirus

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

UPDATE:

State announces soft reopening for dine-in restaurants. Restaurants may provide outdoor or patio services where available beginning Wednesday, May 27. Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham announced the state's emergency public health order will be amended to permit limited outdoor dine-in services for most of the state. Dine-in services inside restaurants and bars remain temporarily prohibited.

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.

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.

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

www.cdc.gov.

CDC fact sheets to read and/or download, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html>

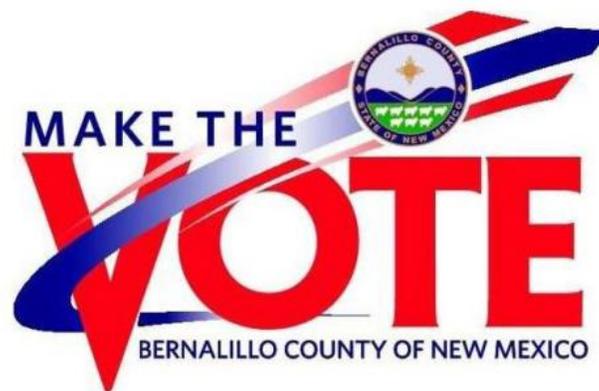
[NMConnect smartphone app for all New Mexicans](#) (click to learn more)

County Offers FREE Masks on Friday, May 29

Each commission district has face masks to distribute for the countywide giveaway. Both adult and child size masks will be available. Mask distribution will take place at these eight locations:

- Mountain View Community Center, 201 Prosperity Ave. SE
- Paradise Hills Community Center, 5901 Paradise Hills Blvd. NW
- Raymond G. Sanchez Community Center, 9800 Fourth St. NW
- South Valley Multipurpose Center, 2008 Larrazolo Road SW
- Vista Grande Community Center, 15 La Madera Road
- Westside Community Center, 1250 Isleta Blvd. SW
- Bernalillo County Atrium building, 6840 Second St., NW
- CARE Campus, 5901 Zuni Road, SE

Any county resident is welcome to receive a mask, with a limit of one mask per person.



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.

With the June 2, 2020 primary election fast approaching, Clerk Linda Stover offers a recommendation on absentee voting.

“If you have not yet mailed your absentee ballot, I recommend you complete it, put it in the envelope, and hand-deliver it to a voting convenience center during early voting or on Election Day,” said Clerk Linda Stover. “And while May 28 is the deadline to apply for an absentee ballot, the ballots go out by mail. So voters applying today or tomorrow will have to wait for their ballot to arrive by mail. Another option is to put on a mask, wash your hands and go to a voting convenience center to vote in person.”

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

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 May 27 at 22 sites throughout the county. FREE 'grab and go' breakfasts and lunches will be served five days a week until Aug. 5.

Locations and details at 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>

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

[Deadline to File Appeals or Property Exemptions is May 29](#)

The Office of the Assessor mailed the 2020 notice of value statements on April 29. Appeals of protest to the county assessor, if one disagrees with the assessed value, are required to be filed no later than 30 days after the mailing of the notice of valuation. The statements show the valuation for property taxation purposes for real property for residential and manufactured homes, and non-residential for commercial and vacant land. The notices reflect a property valuation date effective Jan. 1, 2020, pursuant to property tax code section 7-38-7 NMSA, and based on the analysis of prior year market activity for current and correct values as part of the ad valorem appraisal process.

A protest form can be filed electronically through the appeal portal found on the assessor's website at www.bernco.gov/assessor, under the protest/appeal process tab and entering the assigned nine digit online protest "access code" located on the bottom of your property's notice of value statement. The protest form can also be accessed online and emailed to assessor@bernco.gov or mailed to the Assessor's Office at 501 Tijeras Ave. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, or by using the walk-up transaction windows, located on the north side of the assessor's building, available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

May 29 is also the deadline to file for the head of family, veterans, and 100% disabled veteran's waiver property tax exemptions. This deadline also includes applications for the value freeze program available to 65 years or older or disabled, regardless of age, with a modified gross income of \$35,000 or less. Forms can be downloaded on the [assessor's forms page](#) and submitted via email at assessor@bernco.gov.

[Treasurer Nancy Bearce Thanks Property Tax Payers and Staff](#)

Treasurer Nancy Bearce reports 94% of the 2019 property taxes were collected by the due date and says thank you to all property tax payers for their payments coinciding with the coronavirus (COVID-19) health emergency. Next month, the Treasurer's Office will allocate taxes to the public beneficiaries such as: The University of New Mexico Hospital, Albuquerque Public Schools, Central New Mexico Community College, the City of Albuquerque, Bernalillo County, villages of Los Ranchos and Tijeras, public charter schools, Albuquerque Metro Arroyo Flood Control Authority, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, and others.

[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.

[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.

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.

Pledge to Complete the 2020 Census Today!

Now is your chance to inspire others. Tell everyone—your friends and family, your neighbors and co-workers—that you will complete the census, and tell them why it's important that they respond too.

Fastest and easiest way -- go online to www.2020Census.gov



NMSU: BernCo Cooperative Extension Service

The mission of the Bernalillo County Cooperative Extension Service is to provide the people of Bernalillo County with practical, research-based knowledge and programs to improve their quality of life. The staff is dedicated to meeting the needs of the diverse and ever-changing adult and youth population.

Click the topics below to learn more about their educational services and resources:

- [Yard & Garden](#) (tomatoes, trees, composting, turf grass)
- [Farm, Ranch & Natural Resources](#) (bee & wasp, growers markets)
- [Food and Nutrition](#) (food safety and cooking)
- [Health, Wellness & Family](#) (textiles, clothing, consumer education)
- [4-H Youth Development](#) (projects and activities)
- [Community Economic Development](#)

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
- 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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- [Glyphosate Moratorium](#)

Website: www.BernCo.gov | Email: info@BernCo.gov