



## **State of Texas grants open businesses in Lavaca County 50 percent occupancy**

On Wednesday, May 6 Lavaca County Judge Keith Mudd filed required attestation and supporting documentation with the Texas Department of State Health Services in order for businesses to operate at 50% capacity.

As of Thursday morning, the state has determined that Lavaca county meets the threshold of 5 or fewer ACTIVE COVID-19 cases, which allows non-essential businesses to operate at up to 50% capacity under Gov. Greg Abbott's executive order GA-18 and DSHS' minimum health protocols which may be accessed at [gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas](http://gov.texas.gov/organization/opentexas) and [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/](http://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/)

Please keep in mind, as community spread of COVID-19 continues in the area, and should Lavaca County experience an outbreak or there are five or more active cases in Lavaca County, the 50% capacity rule could be reversed and non-essential businesses as defined by the Office of the Governor, could return to operating at 25% capacity.

Egon Barthels, Emergency Management Coordinator with the Lavaca County Office of Emergency Management today issued the following statement:

“Lavaca county has experienced a slower rate of growth in new COVID-19 cases in comparison to our contiguous counties. We need to continue to understand the significance of the position we are in right now, and take every precaution we can to continue to slow the spread. Even though we live in a rural area and are working hard to distance ourselves as recommended, we can't let our guard down. It's tough to keep modifying our routines and staying away from each other. The beautiful weather and our desire to interact socially make it even tougher, but we will continue to ask for your help. Please follow the social distancing requests that have been communicated throughout our area. We believe it is making a difference. Keep it up!”

Additional information may be found on the Lavaca County COVID-19 Page at [co.lavaca.tx.us](http://co.lavaca.tx.us) and [Facebook.com/LavacaOEM](https://www.facebook.com/LavacaOEM).