



TO: LOCAL NEWS MEDIA

FROM: SALINE COUNTY, SALINE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, SALINE COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND THE CITY OF SALINA

DATE: May 20th, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Saline County Health Department does not have any additional cases of COVID-19 to report today.

Saline County has had 28 cases. Out of the total number of cases, four citizens continue to be actively monitored and isolated and there have been two deaths. The rest have met the criteria necessary to be considered recovered and have been released from daily monitoring and isolation.

KDHE reported the following in their release and can be found at www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus:

- A total of 8,539 cases with 178 deaths reported.
- There have been 62,664 negative tests conducted at KDHE and private labs.
- The age range is 0 years to 100 years (median 42 years).

Announcements:

- In preparation for the upcoming 2020 elections, the Saline County Clerk's Office is mailing information to all registered voters in Saline County. Included in their mailing is important information about voter registration and applications to receive a ballot by mail if voters wish to do so. Visit their website or contact their office for additional information or questions www.saline.org/departments/elections-office or 785-309-5820.
 - In addition, the Election Office is actively recruiting poll workers to work on Election Day. Those interested must be a registered voter in Saline County or a 16 or 17-year-old who is otherwise eligible to register to vote, except for not yet being of legal age.
- The City of Salina Drive-thru Recycling Center will reopen on Wednesday, June 3rd with several modifications to its operating hours and procedures. To see their full press release, visit <http://salina.ks.us/news/?FeedID=5777>

Governor Kelly released her plans to move to Phase 2 of the Ad Astra Reopening Plan starting on Friday, May 22nd. All of the updated information has been uploaded to our website: www.saline.org/coronavirus. Here are the highlights in Phase 2:

- Mass gatherings of 15 or fewer individuals.
- All businesses/activities allowed in Phase 1 and 1.5 may continue to operate with outlined social distancing, mass gathering, and public health restrictions.
- Nail salons, barbershops, hair salons, tanning salons, tattoo parlors, and other personal service

businesses where close contact cannot be avoided may continue to operate, but only for pre-scheduled appointments.

- Fitness centers and health clubs may continue to operate. In-person group classes will be allowed to begin with groups of no more than 15 individuals at a time. Locker rooms remain closed except for restroom facilities.
- Community Centers may open as long as they follow the mass gatherings and social distancing restrictions. Due to the high-risk population concerns, the Saline County Senior Center will remain closed; but meals on wheels will continue.
- Indoor leisure paces such as movie theaters, trampoline parks, theaters, museums, and bowling allies may open as long as they follow the mass gathering and social distancing restrictions.
- State-owned and operated casinos will be allowed to operate as long as they follow social distancing and mass gathering restrictions.
- Organized sports facilities, games, and sports practice may operate as long as they follow outlined mass gatherings and social distancing guidelines AND follow guidelines established by the Kansas Recreation and Park Association.
- In-person commencement or graduation ceremonies may continue to occur with no more than 15 individuals in a room, gymnasium, or facility at one time so long as 6-foot social distancing is maintained.

Under Phase 2 these are the things that are **NOT** allowed to take place:

- Opening of bars and night clubs.
- Outdoor and indoor large entertainment venues with a capacity of 2,000 or more.
- Fairs, festivals, carnivals, and parades.
- Swimming pools (other than backyard pools and those used for physical therapy or first-responder training).
- Summer camps unless they are a licensed child care facility.

Reopening Kansas comes by milestones, not on a timetable. Progress will be measured by monitoring our testing rates, COVID-19 hospitalizations, ability to contact trace, and the availability of personal protective equipment. Here's what you can do to help reach reopening milestones:

- Stay home if you're sick.
- Wear masks in public settings.
- Maximize physical distance (6 feet or more) in public settings.
- Avoid socializing with large groups.
- High-risk individuals should only leave the house for essential needs.
- Minimize nonessential travel.
- Check-in (via phone/letter/text/email) with friends and family who are isolated.
- Wash your hands frequently.

Help our community in slowing the spread of this virus. Only follow official sources to obtain information: www.saline.org/coronavirus or www.kdheks.gov Stay Safe & Stay Healthy.

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