

 <p>SAN JOAQUIN — COUNTY — <i>Joint Information Center</i></p>	<p>Joint Information Center</p>
<p>NEWS</p>	<p>San Joaquin Operational Area</p>

For Immediate Release

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**Questions about San Joaquin County Stay At Home Order
Issued May 8, 2020**

Topics:

[General Information](#) (pg. 1)

[Travel](#) (pg. 3)

[Food](#) (pg. 3)

[Health](#) (pg. 3)

[Business](#) (pg. 5)

[County Landfills](#) (pg. 6)

General Information

Q. What is new to this Order?

A. All businesses with a facility or job site in the County, that are allowed to operate under any State Public Health order, or local health order, are directed to maximize the number of employees who work from home. See Health and Business below for specific details.

Q. Where can I ask a question?

A. Please email SJReadyFeedback@sjgov.org

Q. When does this Order become effective?

A. This Order became effective at 11:59 a.m. on Friday May 8, 2020.

Q. How long will the order last?

A. The Order is in place until the Health Officer rescinds it in writing.

Q. What areas does this Order apply to?

A. This Order is in effect in all of San Joaquin County.

Q. What does this order do?

A. This order directs residents and all businesses in the County, including for profit, non-profit, or educational entities, regardless of the nature of the service, the function they perform, or its corporate or entity structure.

Q. Why is this order in place?

A. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the public, which is now a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, there is a public health emergency throughout the County. Making the problem worse, some individuals who contract the COVID-19 virus have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they may not be aware they are carrying and spreading the virus. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the disease, and because evidence shows the disease is easily spread, gatherings can result in preventable transmission of the virus. The scientific evidence shows that at this stage of the emergency, it is essential to slow virus transmission as much as possible to protect the most vulnerable and to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed. One proven way to slow the transmission is to limit interactions among people to the greatest extent practicable. By reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this Order helps preserve critical and limited healthcare capacity in the County.

Q. Why now?

A. With the increases in cases of confirmed COVID-19 in the County, and deaths, this Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread. Additionally, this order implements Executive Order N-33-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 19, 2020. Additionally, under the previous County order, the evidence suggests that individual efforts taken to date have been insufficient to reduce the transmission rate.

Q. What does this order mean?

A. The “stay at home” Order means to stay in your home and not leave unless necessary for one of the designated exceptions listed in the Order. Some reasons you would leave your home are to get food, to get a prescription, to see a doctor, to go to work, if your work is considered essential as defined in the Order, to take your child(ren) to and from childcare that is authorized under this Order, and to help people you care for get the things they need to live and be healthy and safe.

Q. Is the Order mandatory or just guidance?

A. Yes, it is mandatory. This is a legal Order issued under the authority of California law. You are required to comply. It is critical for everyone to follow the Order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect themselves, their loved ones, friends, neighbors and the whole community. All persons, businesses, and other entities are required to comply if they do not fall within the exemptions that are specified in the Order. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

Q. Am I allowed to leave my home while this Order is in effect?

A. Yes. Individuals may leave their place of residence to acquire or receive essential services or supplies to ensure the health and safety of yourself and your family, engage in outdoor activity. Outdoor activity, keeping in mind the social distancing requirements, such as walking, hiking, biking, running, golf, tennis and equestrian activities with household members. **Do not use playground equipment.**

Q. Who do I call if I suspect the Order is being violated?

A. If you would like to report a suspected violation of the Order, you may call the non-emergency telephone number of the law enforcement agency that provides services in the jurisdiction where the violation is occurring.

- Non-emergency phone numbers
 - Stockton Police Department: (209) 937-8377

- Lodi Police Department: (209) 333-6727
- Manteca Police Department: (209) 456-8101
- Ripon Police Department: (209) 599-2102
- Escalon Police Department: (209) 838-7093
- Tracy Police Department: (209) 831-6550
- San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office: (209) 468-4400

** This answer is stated as agreed upon by the agency heads for the city police departments and Sheriff in San Joaquin County.*

Travel

Q. Does the Order allow me to leave the County?

A. The Order allows travel out of the County only to perform essential activities or operate essential business. Californians should not travel significant distances and should stay close to home.

Q. Can I continue to use public transit?

A. Public transit will continue to operate on a limited basis. Public transit can only be used to perform “essential activities,” to get to and from work to operate “essential business,” or to maintain “essential governmental functions,” as those terms are defined in the Order. People riding public transit must comply with Social Distancing Requirements.

Food

Q. I don't cook - how can I purchase meals?

A. Restaurants, cafes, food trucks, and similar establishments may remain open to supply meals to the public via delivery and carryout. You can also purchase prepared foods at grocery stores, supermarkets, certified farmers' markets, convenience stores, and other such food retailers. Older Californians can call 1-833-544-2374 for non-urgent medical needs, to get meals delivered, track down prescriptions and more.

Q. How can I access free or reduced price meals for my family or myself?

A. Schools, soup kitchens, food banks, and other entities that provide free or reduced priced food goods or meals to students or other members of the public are encouraged to continue providing these services. However, food provided by these establishments to the public may not be eaten on the premises but must instead be delivered or taken away for consumption. Contact 211 or SJReady.org for more information

Health

Q. I become anxious when cooped up in my house. Am I allowed to go to a park or on a hike?

A. It is okay to go outside to go for a walk, to exercise, and participate in healthy activities as long as you maintain a safe physical distance of six feet and gather only with members of your household. Below is a list of some outdoor recreational activities.

*Parks may be closed to help slow the spread of the virus. Check with local officials about park closures in your area. Californians should not travel significant distances and should stay close to home.

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|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Athletics | • BMX biking |
| • Badminton (singles) | • Canoeing (singles) |
| • Throwing a baseball/softball | • Crabbing |

- Cycling
- Exploring Rock Pools
- Fishing
- Gardening (not in groups)
- Golfing (singles, with carts)
- Gun/Archery Ranges
- Hiking (trails/ paths allowing distancing)
- Horse Riding (singles)
- Jogging and running
- Kite Boarding and Kitesurfing
- Meditation
- Outdoor Photography
- Picnics (with your stay-home household members only)
- Quad Biking
- Rock Climbing
- Roller Skating and Rollerblading
- Rowing (singles)
- Scootering (not in groups)
- Skateboarding (not in groups)
- Soft Martial Arts – Tai Chi, Chi Kung (not in groups)
- Surfing
- Tennis and table tennis (singles)
- Throwing a football, kicking a soccer ball (not in groups)
- Trail Running
- Trampolining
- Tree Climbing
- Volleyball (singles)
- Walk the dog
- Wash the car
- Watch the sunrise or sunset
- Yoga

Q. What should I do if I am feeling sick?

A. Typically, human coronaviruses cause mild-to-moderate respiratory illness. Symptoms are wide ranging and can be similar to the flu, including:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore Throat
- New loss of taste or smell

COVID-19 can cause more severe respiratory illness.

If you have any of the emergency warning signs listed below, you should contact your medical provider immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Bluish lips or face

Q. Where can I be tested?

A. If you are interested in being tested for COVID-19, make an appointment free through OptumServe in Lodi at <https://lhi.care/covidtesting>. If you do not have internet access, call 1-888-634-1123. Appointments are available on weekdays.

Testing through Project Baseline is provided free of charge Monday through Saturday near San Joaquin General Hospital. Complete the screening at <https://www.projectbaseline.com/covid-19/>

Business

Q. What businesses are allowed to be open?

A. Early Stage 2 services that protect public health, public safety, and provide essential needs, **with modifications**, such as:

- Pharmacies
- Food: Grocery stores, farmers markets, food banks, convenience stores, take-out and delivery restaurants
- Banks
- Childcare for those outside of the essential workforce
- Office-based businesses (telework strongly encouraged)
- Gas stations
- Marinas/Boat Ramps
- Cleaning Services
- Car washes
- Landscaping Services
- Laundry Services
- Pet Grooming
- Outdoor museums
- Open gallery spaces
- Other public spaces with modifications

Retailers can re-open for delivery or curbside pickup, along with the manufacturing and logistic sectors that support retail. Retail does not include personal services such as beauty salons but does include the sale of goods, such as:

- Bookstores
- Jewelry stores
- Toy stores
- Clothing and shoe stores
- Home and furnishing stores
- Sporting goods stores
- Music
- Florists

Q. What is closed?

- Personal services such as nail salons, tattoo parlors, gyms and fitness studios
- Hospitality services, such as bars and lounges
- Entertainment venues, such as movie theaters, pro sports, gaming, gambling, and arcade venues
- Indoor museums, kids museums and gallery spaces, zoos, and libraries
- Community centers, including public pools, playgrounds, and picnic areas
- Limited-capacity religious services and cultural ceremonies
- Nightclubs
- Concert venues
- Festivals
- Live audience sports
- Hotels/lodging for leisure and tourism – non-essential travel
- Higher Education

Q. Where can I find guidance or more information?

A. Visit the State of California Resilience Roadmap at <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>. Or check the California Department of Public Health at <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/COVID-19/Local-Variance-Attestations.aspx>.

Q. What if my business is not listed?

A. The Order retains the prior requirement that all non-exempt businesses in the County cease operations, but adds that they may perform Minimum Basic Operations. Minimum Basic Operations are defined in Section 11 as:

a. The minimum necessary activities to maintain and protect the value of the business's inventory and facilities; ensure security, safety, and sanitation; process

payroll and employee benefits; provide for the delivery of existing inventory directly to residences or businesses; and related functions.

b. The minimum necessary activities to facilitate owners, employees, and contractors of the business being able to continue to work remotely from their residences, and to ensure that the business can deliver its service remotely.

Q. Are non-profit organizations allowed to continue to operate?

A. If they provide support to open sectors as described in the Order, then yes they can and should continue providing those services. This would include non-profits operating food pantries, providing housing for homeless residents, and many other critical services.

Q: Are Private recycling centers allowed to operate?

A: To the extent, private recyclers accept or pickup waste, e-waste, hazardous waste, and solid waste they would fall under the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers category they may operate. Private recycling primarily limited to recycling of bottles and cans does not meet the waste collection category, and therefore operation of that type of collection center is prohibited.

Q: Can Real Estate Offices continue to operate and hold open houses?

A: Open houses are not allowed. Real Estate office functions maybe carried out provided the distancing protocols contained in the order are implemented.

Q: Can New Home Sales offices (model homes sales offices) continue to operate?

A: If the model home is being used like an open house with unrestricted public access, no, they may not operate. New home sales offices should adopt the same protocols as apply to real estate agents.

Q: Can stand-alone car washes (carwashes with onsite employees) continue to operate?

A: The Essential Critical Infrastructure Workers list dated March 22, 2020 categorizes workers who provide auto repair and maintenance as essential workers. The list does not include workers at public car washes.

County Landfills

Q. What options do I have to dispose of my waste?

A. The Lovelace Road Material Recovery Facility and Transfer Station, North County Recycle Center and Landfill, and the Household Hazardous Waste Facility will reopen May 13. Please visit [San Joaquin County Solid Waste Division](#) for reopening criteria and commercial garbage service.

Q. Can I still drop off my household hazardous waste?

A. The Household Hazardous Waste Facility is now open. Customers at Household Hazardous Waste facility remain in vehicles while staff processes waste.

Q. Could you reopen by only allowing non-cash payments (e.g. contactless credit cards, on-line payments)?

A. Only electronic payment will be accepted.

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