



Questions about COVID-19 in Carlsbad

How can I get regular updates about COVID-19?

- Visit the special city webpage: www.carlsbadca.gov/covid19
- [Sign up](#) for City of Carlsbad newsletter
- Social media: [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) - @carlsbadcagov; [Facebook](#) - @cityofcarlsbad

What does the “stay at home” order mean?

The California Governor Gavin Newsom issued an [executive order](#) on March 19 that that all individuals living in the State of California stay at home except. Here are the key points:

- Stay at home except for essential needs like groceries, medical appointments, to take care of someone in need and to get some exercise and fresh air.
- If you have any symptoms of respiratory illness or fever, stay home. Period. Isolate yourself from anyone in your family who is at high risk (older or with underlying health conditions) until you get better.
- When you go out, maintain a 6-foot separation from others at all times and don't meet up with friends or others not in your immediate household. Limit your walks to your own neighborhood.

What city facilities are closed?

Below is a list of what city buildings and amenities are closed to the public. Even though buildings are closed, all essential city services are still available either by phone or online. Here's a list of how to [access these services](#) online.

- Community centers
- Senior center (meal pick up still available)
- Libraries
- City offices
- Tennis, basketball and pickleball courts
- Sport fields
- Playgrounds
- Dog parks and skate parks
- Trails
- Parks
- City beach (from Oak Avenue north to the Oceanside border)

Which beaches in Carlsbad are closed?

Most people don't realize that in Carlsbad, six of our nearly seven miles of coastline are owned and managed by California State Parks. The city has closed the beach from Oak Avenue north to the Oceanside border, but the rest are not in our control. Yesterday the city sent an official request to the state asking that all state beaches and parking lots be closed to help protect the health of our community. So far, the only state park the governor has closed in San Diego County is Torrey Pines.

Is walking, biking or jogging allowed along the Sea Wall?

The city has over the years negotiated agreements with the state to manage the upper and lower Sea Wall as well as the grassy area by the Ocean Street parking lot. Starting March 24, the city will close the lower Sea Wall and have police officers in the area to remind people to keep their distance, unless they're part of the same household. The upper Sea Wall will remain open to people using it for exercise, but no gathering or sitting on benches. Restrooms remain open. The city is hopeful that education will solve the problem, but is prepared to issue citations if it comes to that.

Is surfing and swimming still allowed at beaches?

We continue to get questions about what is and isn't allowed in the "stay at home order," like surfing, swimming, etc. The governor did not list every single activity, so please use your judgment. The goal is to stay at home and when you go out for "essential" needs, keeping your distance to avoid the risk of catching or spreading COVID-19. It should go without saying, but if you're sick, do not go out at all. The city-run beach from Oak Avenue north to Oceanside border is closed.

How is social distancing being enforced at beaches?

Most of the nearly 7 miles of beaches in Carlsbad are owned and operated by California State Parks. We have reached out to the state to request their parking lots be closed immediately. of our nearly seven miles of coastline are owned and managed by California State Parks. The city has closed the beach from Oak Avenue north to the Oceanside border, but the rest are not in our control. That's the part of the beach that we control. Additional signage has been posted along the upper sea wall, and our police will be making the rounds as well to encourage social distancing.

What businesses are open and closed?

The best source of information for which businesses can operate is a list put out by the California governor's office. These are the [jobs deemed essential](#) for the health and well-being of Californians (the official term is essential critical infrastructure workers). It's a long and detailed list, broken down by sector, that includes jobs in childcare and construction and fast-food restaurants and others offering carry-out.

It also includes workers in grocery stores, pharmacies, convenience stores, pet supply stores, auto supply and repair shops, and hardware and home-improvement stores. Local government services are also included on the list. View a [map of restaurants in Carlsbad](#) that are open for take-out and delivery.

How is the health order being enforced at businesses?

The City of Carlsbad Police Department has met with managers at nearly 350 restaurants and bars to make sure they were aware of and following all health orders. This week, officers will begin visits to non-essential businesses to make sure they are aware of the need to close (if they haven't already).

Officers will also distribute notices to individuals who are not following the social distancing and gathering rules when not at home. Law enforcement has been given the tools to enforce these orders, and are ready to use them as needed.

How can I report non-compliance with the health order?

If you'd like to discuss non-compliance with the latest health order, please call the Carlsbad Police Department's non-emergency number at 760-931-2197.

Where can I get the latest number of cases in San Diego?

The County of San Diego maintains a [log on its website](#) that is updated daily around 4 p.m. Keep in mind, people can have COVID-19 and not show symptoms, and not everyone is tested. That's why precautions are being taken now to avoid further community spread. A separate log is available that lists [confirmed cases by city of residence](#) and is updated daily.

How many cases are in Carlsbad?

As of March 23, the number of cases in Carlsbad is 14. The second death of a San Diego County resident will be reported by end of day on March 24. Unfortunately, these numbers will continue to increase, which is why it's important to follow all public health orders that are in place.

The County Health & Human Services Agency is tracking known cases and notifying those who may have had contact with people with COVID-19. The county is not publicly sharing where patients live or other identifying information due to health privacy laws.

Why won't the city share information about the Carlsbad residents who have COVID-19?

The city does not receive detailed information on the confirmed cases due to privacy laws. The County of San Diego is reaching out to anyone who may have been in contact with the confirmed cases. Since testing is limited, it's best to assume everyone is positive and to stay at home unless you must go out for essential needs. If you do need to go out, please adhere to 6-foot social distance requirements.

Does the city provide meal services for seniors?

Yes. The city is continuing its meal services for Carlsbad residents 60 and older, although some modifications have been made due to the county's health order.

One option is to pick up a packaged lunch (same meals as planned) Monday through Friday outside the senior center (in person dining has been put on hold through March 31). Reservations must be made no later than noon the day before (M-F).

Call 760-602-4655 to leave a message for a reservation. The city is also delivering meals for homebound Carlsbad residents 60 and older.

Call 760-602-4650 for information on home meal delivery. Additional details about meal services is available on the city's website.

What other support can the city provide seniors?

The You Are Not Alone Program is a free service for City of Carlsbad seniors who live alone and would benefit from a daily check on their welfare. The goal of YANA is to help clients feel safer while continuing to live independently. During the public health emergency, in person visits have been put on hold but members of the Police Department's senior volunteer patrol make daily phone calls to each of the YANA clients. To enroll a Carlsbad resident in the program, call the City of Carlsbad Police Department's senior volunteer patrol at 760-931-2214.

What meal service is available to students enrolled in free or reduced price lunch programs at school?

Beginning Monday, March 16, Carlsbad Unified School District will provide temporary lunch service at Jefferson Elementary School (3743 Jefferson St., Carlsbad CA 92008). Foods will be portable so that families may take the food to go. Food service will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. Neighboring cities also are providing free meals, and the city compiled a [list on its website](#).

How are city first responders protecting themselves?

The city has purchased additional supplies of protective gear and conducted refresher training on handling patients with infectious diseases. Protocols have also been put in place based on medical guidance specific to COVID-19.

Are any city employees suspected of having COVID-19?

The city can't share employees' personal medical information, but has protocols in place to handle any suspected exposures involving employees. This includes following the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recommendations for isolation and quarantines. The Human Resources Department has provided guidance to all employees and supervisors about how to handle employee illnesses, regardless of the type. All city staff who are not supporting essential city functions have been directed to work from home and those working in city offices are maintaining 6-feet of social distance. Employees have also been provided with information about preventing COVID-19 and the importance of avoiding community spread. Signs have been placed in all work areas about proper handwashing and other public health measures.

How is the city helping people who are homeless?

City funded social workers already are in contact with those experiencing homelessness in Carlsbad to offer support and services. In addition, the city's Homeless Response Team has visited shelters and community service providers as well as individual community members to share information and resources to help them avoid COVID-19 infection. The city has also deployed 10 hand washing stations in [key locations](#).

Is drinking water safe?

Public water supplies in the San Diego region remain safe to drink due to numerous robust treatment processes used by local and regional water providers.

Despite widespread fears about COVID-19, there's no evidence that it is transmitted through water. In fact, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness like the flu, and neither are spread through treated water supplies.

Drinking water provided by the Water Authority and its 24 member agencies is treated by a combination of technologies – including sedimentation, filtration and disinfection – that chemically deactivate and physically remove bacteria, viruses and other contaminants.

Is it safe to receive a package from an area where COVID-19 has been reported?

Yes. According to the [World Health Organization](#), the likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, travelled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low.