



Vernon Parish Police Jury  
337-238-0324



Vernon Parish OHSEP  
337-238-0815



Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office  
337-238-1311

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 31, 2020

### **COVID-19 Vernon Parish Police Jury Mitigation Strategy**

On March 30, 2020 state and local officials held a teleconference to discuss the COVID -19 virus in Vernon Parish. Present on the teleconference were Senator Michael Reese, Representative Charles Owen, Vernon Parish Police Jury President James B. Tuck, Vernon Parish Sheriff Sam Craft, Vernon Parish District Attorney Asa Skinner, Vernon Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness Director Kenneth Moore, Leesville Mayor Rick Allen, New Llano Mayor Carolyn Todd, Rosepine Mayor Donna Duvall, Anacoco Mayor Keith Lewing, Simpson Mayor Vickie Standifer, Hornbeck Mayor Clarence Beebe, Parish Administrator/Treasurer Rhonda M. Plummer, Parish Secretary Belinda S. Diehl, and Mr. Kevin Quinn and Dr. David Aymond from Byrd Regional Hospital.

We would like to remind all Vernon Parish residents to follow the guidelines put out by the Governor in his Stay at Home Order (found here: <https://gov.louisiana.gov/assets/docs/covid/Stay-Home-One-Pager.pdf>) and any future orders that come out. Residents should not go out unless it for essential services and must practice social distancing at all times when with other people. Limit the number of trips that you take for essentials and limit the number of people you take with you – especially to grocery stores. The more people that go out everyday increases your chance of exposure to the virus.

Vernon Parish residents are also reminded that our public parks and recreation sites are closed, this includes Vernon Lake Spillway Park. Congregating at any public park or recreation site is NOT allowed and will be enforced by the Vernon Parish Sheriff's Office.

You may continue to use the public boat launches and go fishing as long as you are not congregating in groups and are practicing social distancing.

Our Office of Emergency Preparedness Director, Mr. Kenneth Moore is in daily contact with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Louisiana Department of Health to determine if any additional steps need to be taken in our parish to meet the needs of our citizens.

At this time, Sheriff Craft has not issued a curfew for Vernon Parish.

If you are planning on traveling to Texas from Louisiana please be sure to check with Texas officials regarding the travel restrictions put in place by Governor Abbott on March 29, 2020.

Anyone that is experiencing the symptoms of the virus – fever (100.4 and above), cough, or trouble breathing, and is concerned, should call their primary care provider for further instruction. However, in the event of an emergency you should seek immediate medical care.

**Do your part. Stay at home. Only go out for essentials. Do not congregate. Practice social distancing.**

END

**COVID-19 Resources:**

- Louisiana Department of Public Health: <http://ldh.la.gov/Coronavirus/>
- COVID-19 questions are being answered by the **Louisiana 211 Network – dial 211 or text 898-211**
- Centers for Disease Control: <https://coronavirus.gov>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>