



# Coronavirus

## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated as of March 30, 2021

### **Do I have to wear a mask?**

Face coverings must be worn when outside of the home, unless an exemption applies. For more information and a full list of exemptions, please visit the [CA Department of Public Health's November 16, 2020 Order](#).

### **What is allowed to open?**

Solano County is currently in the red tier of the state's Blueprint for a Safer Economy. For specific information about the impacts to individual industries, visit the [Blueprint for a Safer Economy](#).

### **Is the James Lemos Pool open? What about lap swim?**

The James Lemos Swim Center is currently open for lap swim only. Lanes must be reserved in advance. For information on how to reserve a lane, please visit [www.ci.benicia.ca.us/aquatics](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/aquatics).

### **Are various sports available?**

Please visit <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/sports> for a list of City sports programs that are currently available.

### **Are athletic facilities open?**

Please visit <https://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/sports> for information about sports facilities that are currently available.

### **Are playgrounds open?**

Playgrounds are open. Please visit [www.ci.benicia.ca.us/parks](http://www.ci.benicia.ca.us/parks) for an updated list.

## **When will picnic rentals reopen?**

Due to COVID-19, we are not accepting reservations or rental requests for any parks, picnic areas, or indoor facilities until further notice.

## **Can I have gatherings of friends and family?**

Gatherings are limited to a maximum of three households.

## **Who can I call if I have concerns about a violation of the orders?**

Please inform the Community Preservation Officer, Tim Barrow. His email is [tbarrow@ci.benicia.ca.us](mailto:tbarrow@ci.benicia.ca.us).

## **Can I eat my take-out food outside in public spaces?**

Yes. Please maintain social distancing and properly dispose of your trash.

## **What restrooms are currently open?**

All restrooms operated by the City of Benicia are currently open, with minor exceptions.

## **Can the fire department or police department join my drive-by car parade?**

Unfortunately, they can not. They are experiencing an overwhelming number of requests and it is too difficult to schedule these visits while maintaining readiness for emergency response as a top priority.

## **Is Ninth Street Beach open for public use?**

9<sup>th</sup> Street beach is now open for use by the public. Please maintain social distancing and only gather with members of the same household.

## **Why isn't the Benicia Public Library open when other Solano County libraries are open? When will it open?**

The Benicia Public Library offers access to our collection via curbside pickup, Monday through Friday from 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm. Please call the Library to schedule an appointment! (707) 746-4343. Our online library of

extensive resources from ebooks to audiobooks to virtual story times (and much more!) is also available 24/7 at [benicialibrary.org](http://benicialibrary.org).

Library staff are working to assess how we can best reopen in a manner that assures the safety of both the public and our staff. The timeline is not yet in place.

## **Are library programs available?**

The Library has continued to offer programming through the Shelter-in-Place order by moving much of our activity online. You can view live story times, book clubs, and other programs through our website at [benicialibrary.org](http://benicialibrary.org).

We're working on expanding our programming and other services by pivoting towards online and virtual offerings, in what we're calling our "Digital Shift," supported by a generous grant from the Benicia Library Foundation.

It will take longer for the next phase of re-opening guidelines to allow for in-person group programs at the Library. We will update the community as we know more.

## **When can I rent a public room in the library?**

As of now, public libraries have not been cleared to host events or to rent their public rooms for community meetings. We are waiting for State and County guidance and we will update the community as we learn more.