



May 29, 2020

Hello Residents of the Manhattan Park District,

We hope that you and your families remain safe and healthy. Congratulations to our High School Seniors and 8th Graders on their graduations! They, along with all of our students, should be very proud of themselves. Ending the school year under these circumstances was certainly less than ideal and very challenging, not only for them, but for their parents and guardians as well.

It is the Park District's job to offer our community active recreation through programs and passive recreation like enjoying a stroll through a park. We are striving to offer as much as we can within the restrictions necessary due to COVID-19 set by the State of Illinois and the CDC. Our Summer Guide that was delivered to your home in February is no longer valid with the changes implemented due to COVID-19. We have instead offered a monthly line-up of virtual programs communicated via email and social media. We know summer camp is a large part of your summer planning and with the safety of everyone in mind, we are planning to begin Camp Coyote on July 6 with very specific guidelines in place.

You can find details on camp, along with phase 3 updates on parks, programs, events, rentals and general operations of the Manhattan Park District below:

Parks

- All park open space remains open for recreation under the guidelines provided by the State of Illinois
- Playgrounds remain closed and it is uncertain when State guidelines will allow for them to reopen
- Park visitors must adhere to social distancing of at least 6 feet
- No groups of more than 10 people may congregate in the parks

Tennis Courts

- Open with a maximum of 4 players per court
- Gates must be kept open at all times
- Players must use their own racquet
- Players must maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet

Central Park Splash Pad

- Closed until further notice
- It is uncertain if State guidelines will allow splash pads to open this summer

Field Rentals

- Round Barn Farm Baseball/Softball Field and MPD Athletic Complex are available for rent only with permit under strict guidance beginning June 1
- Permits are available for practice only; no game play is allowed
- MPD Athletic Complex will remain locked unless a rental is booked
- Anyone renting fields must fill out all necessary permit paperwork, including COVID-19 Protocol Form
- All persons must enter Baseball/Softball fields through equipment gate; dugouts will be closed
- All permitted groups must adhere to the following guidelines provided by the State of Illinois:
 - No more than 10 people per group
 - Stations within a group must be 10 feet apart
 - Groups must be no less than 30 feet apart from one another
 - Social distancing of at least 6 feet must be maintained at all times
 - Water must be supplied by each individual
 - No shared equipment
 - Attendance of those present must be logged

Room & Pavilion Rentals

- No rentals will be allowed in Phase 3
- The Central Park room and north pavilion will not be available for rent this summer
- All Central Park pavilions will be unavailable to the public Monday-Friday, 8 am - 5 pm beginning July 6
- During Phase 4, pavilion rentals of 50 or fewer may be allowed if specified by the State of Illinois
- No indoor room rentals will be allowed until further notice

Hansen Community Center Operations

- Online program registration remains open
- The HCC will remain closed to the public during Phase 3
- The HCC Villa will reopen for in-person customer service in Phase 4

Events

- Sip of Summer Concert Series
 - All June concerts are cancelled
 - July concerts will most likely be canceled due to anticipated Phase 4 restrictions
 - August concert yet to be determined
- Wine Fest (hosted by the Manhattan Park Foundation)
 - Plans are in place to offer the event either traditionally or with adaptations
 - More details to come over the summer
- Round Barn Fest/Run for the Round Barn
 - Plans are in place to offer event as of now
 - Final decision to be made mid-summer

Summer Camp

- Camp Coyote (Age 5-11) is scheduled to begin July 6 and run Monday-Friday, 9 am - 4 pm
- Online registration is now open
- Camp Chickadee (Age 3-5) and Before and After Care is canceled
- Camp will be restricted to 20 participants at this time
- Strict safety procedures will be followed to ensure the safety of our campers
- For more information on summer camp and camp safety, please contact MacKenzie at moconnor@manhattanparks.org

Programming

- Virtual programming continues in Phase 3
- Online registration is now open
- Visit <https://bit.ly/MPDJune> to see the June Virtual Program Guide
- Some in-person programming will resume in Phase 4 with restrictions as specified by the State of Illinois

Please contact us at mpd@manhattanparks.org with any questions about Park District operations during this challenging time. The Park District will continue to update our operations and programming and keep the community updated as more information about Phase 4 becomes available. We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer and plan to see everyone as soon as we can!

Sincerely,
Manhattan Park District Staff