

A Message from the Executive Director
Frankfort Park District Prepares for Phase 3 Guidelines of Restore Illinois Plan

Dear Residents of the Frankfort Park District,

The Park District is taking an active role to keep our program participants and visitors healthy and safe during the COVID-19 crisis. The Park District is currently operating and will continue to operate within the applicable parameters of the Governor's Executive Order so that we can fulfill our mission to provide recreation opportunities for our residents. Participating in recreational activities is an important part of being healthy and improves the quality of lives.

Beginning May 29, the Frankfort Park District will begin to reopen facilities and start programs in line with Phase 3 of the Governor's Restore Illinois Reopening Plan. The Park District has evaluated and adjusted programs to adhere to social distancing guidelines which includes reducing program sizes to ensure that the stated requirements of a maximum group size of 10 people. This applies to all programs including our summer camps. As the State progresses into Phase 4, the District will evaluate and implement additional program modifications to adhere to the maximum group size of 50 people or fewer.

Park Amenities & Youth Sports

The Frankfort Park District parks will reopen on Friday, May 29. This will allow for use of the open and active green space. Under Phase 3, playgrounds will remain CLOSED as will the outdoor fitness equipment.

In Phase III, youth sports activities are limited to drills, practices, and lessons that do not involve contact and allow for 6-ft of social distancing to be maintained (no competitive games). Tennis courts, basketball rims and volleyball nets will be available in early June for use. We remind all individuals to follow social distancing guidelines of staying a minimum of six feet away from others. When these parameters cannot be followed, then a face covering needs to be worn. There should be 30 feet of space between user groups.

During Phase 3 the bathrooms and water fountains in the park will remain closed but will open in the coming weeks. Participants are encouraged to bring water and hand sanitizer to the park.

Bark Park will reopen, current memberships have been extended and are good through June 30.

The Splash Pad at Commissioners Park will remain closed and will reopen as permitted under guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health. It is recommended to limit contact with hard surfaces.

The Frankfort Park District values the health and safety of our participants and guests. We appreciate the support and cooperation from the many who have stayed home. Our

staff is excited to see people in the parks and back at programs. Please comply with the rules of Phase 3 so that we can ensure that the parks can safely remain open for all to use.

Programs

Over the next few weeks, additional facilities will open, summer program registration will begin on June 1 and summer programs will start the week of June 8. The summer brochure will be posted on line on Friday, May 29th. It is important to understand that the programs and facilities that will be running are a part of the Phase 3 reopening. Registration can be done online, dropped in the nightly drop box or in-person starting June 1st. The office hours at the Founders Center will be Mon-Fri from 9:00 am-4:00 pm. The District will continue to offer virtual online programming which can be found on the District's website. The Park District is using the following guidelines for programming.

- **Reducing Program Size & Start Times**
Program locations, staggered start times and limiting the number of participants are being implemented within programs. When possible programs will be held outdoors in areas of parks to provide for adequate social distancing. Park District day camp experiences have been adjusted by eliminating large gatherings and focusing more on outdoor activities and bringing entertainment to camps/programs versus taking a field trip.
- **Practicing Good Hygiene**
More frequent hand washing requirements have been implemented within programs. Hand sanitizer will be available at facilities.
- **Increasing Cleaning**
New standards have been implemented to ensure the regular cleaning of equipment and facilities.

Room and Picnic Rentals

At this time the District is not accepting any new rentals and has cancelled all rentals through the end of July. The District will evaluate the opportunity to welcome groups back under the State of Illinois Phase 4.

Thank you for your continued support and patience as we navigate the Covid health pandemic. The Board of Commissioners and staff look forward to welcoming you back to the parks and programs. Stay well!

Sincerely,

Gina Hassett
Executive Director, CPRP