



News Release

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Division of Parks and Recreation Outlines Plan to Reopen

FREDERICK, Md. – Playgrounds maintained by Frederick County Parks and Recreation are now open for use. Parks and Recreation Director Jeremy Kortright today announced plans to gradually reopen other facilities and programming, which have been unavailable under Governor Hogan's Executive Order in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition to the immediate reopening of playgrounds at County-operated parks, Kortright announced the following changes in operations:

- **Shelters and ball field reservations will resume July 1.** For more information on a new process for placing reservations, visit www.recreator.com/covidreturntoplay and www.recreator.com/covidreturntoparks. People with existing reservations will receive an email with information on how to complete the updated process. Reservations require a physical distancing plan and must comply with all health regulations.
- **Summer recreation opportunities will be announced next week.** Details about programs and activities will be posted on www.recreator.com.
- **Catoctin Creek Nature Center's lobby will open with a modified schedule on July 18.** All visitors will be required to wear a mask while indoors and to maintain physical distancing. Classrooms remain closed.

All large events and gatherings in County parks are prohibited. Large gatherings continue to present a risk for spread of the virus.

The openings announced today affect Frederick County-operated parks only. All Frederick County Public Schools facilities, including playgrounds and tracks, remain closed. Questions about playgrounds maintained by homeowners associations, municipalities, and the State should be directed to those organizations.

For more information, contact the Division of Parks and Recreation at 301-600-1646, or by emailing ParksAndRecreation@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

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