



County Commissioners of Kent County, MD Department of Parks & Recreation



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Website: <http://www.kentparksandrec.org/index.php>

Social Media: <http://www.Facebook.com/KentCountyCommunityCenter>

SUMMER 2021 SWIMMING POOLS/AQUATICS OPERATIONS UPDATE

~REVISED May 27, 2021~

SWIMMING POOL COVID RESTRICTIONS LIFTED/STAFFING CAPACITY: We are pleased to announce that MD Department of Health COVID restrictions have been lifted for public swimming pools. Although this is great news, KCPR has a significant summer staffing shortage in numerous areas, including aquatics. The staffing shortage will impact facilities' openings/days of operation and program/activity offerings. The operating schedule is subject to change without advance notice although we will strive to provide as much notice as possible for any changes. *Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding and please, be kind to staff on duty.*

~KCCC POOL: **OPEN** Beginning Memorial Day Weekend (May 29th - May 31st)

✚ *Night Swim, Aqua Fitness, Youth and Adult Swim Lessons:* **CLOSED**

~BAYSIDE POOL: **CLOSED**

~MILLINGTON POOL: **CLOSED**

~*BETTERTON BEACH: **OPEN** ~ **NO LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY - SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK**

~*STILL POND STATION PARK BEACH: **OPEN** ~ **NO LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY - SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK**

**Please see info about beach use rules under County Parks section of this announcement.*

- KCCC POOL will open for the season beginning Saturday, May 29th and will be open weekends only (including Memorial Day) through June 20th
- Pool hours are 12 pm - 7 pm and depending on **weather
***Please see Rainout Line, delayed openings, early closings and other closing info in applicable sections below*
- Beginning June 22nd, KCCC Pool will begin daily operations and will be open Tuesday through Sunday. The pool will be closed to the public each Monday
- Beginning August 16th through Labor Day, pool hours will be modified to 12 pm – 5 pm on weekdays (Tuesday – Friday). Weekend hours will continue from 12 pm -7 pm
- Due to low staffing levels, maximum entry capacity will be 250 people, however capacity is subject to change and may result in lower entry capacity as needed
- Due to staffing levels and capacity limitations, group reservations and exclusive use rentals cannot be accommodated; Groups are defined as 15 people or greater in size; Please call or email for info about eligibility and discounted daily admission rates for Community Recognition Groups; Admission is based on entry capacity availability and is on a first come first serve basis
- ***Pre-COVID policies that permitted toys in the Kiddie/Wading pool at management's discretion will not be accommodated. NO TOYS, FLOATS, FLOAT RINGS OR OTHER FLOATABLE DEVICES PERMITTED INSIDE POOL GATES - NO EXCEPTIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ASK.***
- US Coast Guard approved life vests permitted. Non-US Coast Guard approved swimmy/puddle jumpers will only be permitted for children ages 5 and under and only when in the Kiddie/Wading Pool. ***NO EXCEPTIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ASK.***

ADMISSION/ENTRY/RE-ENTRY: An entry fee is required to enter beyond the pool gates and is required of all patrons over the age of two. A **water-proof wrist band will be issued and must be worn during the entire visit. The band must not be removed prior to final exit/departure for the day and will be required to be shown for re-entry. NO EXCEPTIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ASK.**

REFUNDS: Please retain your receipt for entry. Refunds shall only be issued if the pool is closed within thirty minutes of an entry. Payment receipt must be presented otherwise no refund shall be issued. ***NO EXCEPTIONS. PLEASE DO NOT ASK.***

DAILY ADMISSION FEES:

- ~\$5 with Facility Access Card

- ~\$7 without Facility Access Card
- ~Under age 2 FREE
- ❖ FAC fees based on residency AND age. For information on FAC fees click <http://www.kentparksandrec.org/Benefits%20of%20FAC%20Poster.pdf>

Proof of residency requirements are followed for the initial purchase of the FAC. Daily pool admission fees are not based on residency.

***SEASON PASS FEES:**

- Resident: Individual - \$80; Family of 4 - \$240; Each additional family member - \$30
- Non-Resident: Individual - \$95; Family of 4 - \$290; Each additional family member - \$35
- ❖ *Purchase of a Season Pass does not include priority for entry. Entry is first come first serve until capacity limits reached

KCCC POOL CONCESSION STAND: We are pleased to announce *Fil Ah Belly Depot* (a private vendor not affiliated with Parks & Recreation or Kent County Government) will operate the concession stand for the season. Menu items will be **reasonably priced and include choices such as pizza, burgers, hot dogs, subs, chicken wings, fried fish sandwich, chicken tenders, grilled cheese sandwich, fries, nachos, Italian Water Ice, assorted drinks and more.** Specials such as Taco Tuesday and Soul Food Sunday will be incorporated throughout the season as announced. All food service establishment licenses and permits have been issued by the Department of Health. ***The operation of the concession stand is independent of the Department of Parks & Recreation. *** Food may be brought inside pool gates but may not be in delivery containers and must not be in glass or other breakable containers. *** Please support the concession stand vendor when you can! They are excited to earn and retain your business.***

SWIMMING POOL RULES: For a portable document format (PDF) of the full listing of swimming pool policies and allowed / not allowed swim wear click <http://www.kentparksandrec.org/Swimming%20Pool%20Rules%20and%20Swim%20Wear%20KNOW%20BEFORE%20YOU%20GO%20FLYER.pdf>. ***Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding and please, be kind to staff on duty.***

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RAINOUT LINE WEATHER AND INFORMATION ALERT NOTIFICATIONS: Pool opening is dependent upon the weather. Delayed openings and closures are announced using our Rainout Line platform for notifications. Users must sign up to receive alerts. For information on our Rainout Line, signing up for alerts and how we make announcements for delayed opening, closures and other important information, click <http://www.kentparksandrec.org/Rainout%20Line%20Info%20Flier.pdf?fbclid=IwAR3eGLY17dHzVduvmBmTRpTKk9Xia8oIKB6mYuHOrTJXm3nN8WjfeOCH3j4>. Notices are also posted on our social media page on Facebook so please follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/KentCountyCommunityCenter>

GENERAL WEATHER, CLOSING, DELAYED OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

EARLY CLOSING: When lightning or thunder occurs after a facility is open for the day, swimming will not be permitted and pool facilities will immediately close. During thunder closures, patrons are permitted to remain inside pool gates. During lightning closures, patrons will not be permitted to remain inside pool gates. The closure is considered temporary for thirty minutes until there is no reoccurrence of lightning or thunder. Each time there is a reoccurrence of one or both, the 30-minute temporary closure restarts. Heavy rainfall can also be cause for a closure. We do not generally post temporary closures of only 30 minutes, however, on a case-by-case basis, posts may be made more often depending on lightning/thunder reoccurrence frequency and circumstances of the weather.

DELAYED OPENING: Pool opening may be delayed due to weather conditions, for safety reasons or for emergencies. In the event the weather is not anticipated to improve in a relatively short period of time (generally 1-2 hours but this is not a firm time frame), there is the possibility of a full closure for the remainder of the day. **If a facility fully closes for the day, it will not reopen** (even if the weather improves later in the day). ***If a temporary weather closure occurs after 5:45 pm during daytime public swim, the pool facility will not reopen*** and will be closed for the remainder of the day.

OTHER CLOSING: KCPR is licensed to operate facilities following state of Maryland laws for public swimming pools and public beaches that include, but are not limited to, water chemistry and balance, water clarity, sanitization, fecal and vomit incidents, equipment operations, and more. When it is necessary to correct issues that arise, facilities may be closed or may close early without advance notice.

Other closings may also be necessary for safety or other reasons that include, but are not limited to, when the outside temperature is below 70 degrees, when extreme wind conditions exist, when there are fewer than 10 patrons present for an extended period (generally two hours or more), when there have been no patrons at a facility for more than one hour before the scheduled closing, unforeseen emergencies, etc. This list is not inclusive of all reasons a facility may be closed or may close early.

COUNTY PARK USE REGULATIONS: <http://www.kentparksandrec.org/Park%20Use%20Regulations.pdf>

STILL POND STATION PARK REGULATIONS (NO LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY – SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK):
Still Pond Station Park is currently ***an undeveloped park with no bathroom facilities or trash cans***. As a trash-free park, patrons are required to bring their own trash bag and take trash with them after each visit. The facility has an extremely narrow shoreline with limited space to accommodate patrons. The County is making plans for developing the park in the future (picnic pavilion, playground, swings, restrooms and parking lot improvements). The boat ramp is for launching non-motorized watercrafts only and is not a public landing. The USCG operates as a seasonal USCG location from April to November and monitor waterways and grounds. The beach and grounds are also monitored by the Department of Parks and Recreation, Department of Public Works and Kent County Sheriff's Office.

BETTERTON BEACH PARK REGULATIONS (NO LIFEGUARDS ON DUTY – SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK):
<http://www.kentparksandrec.org/BETTERTON%20BEACH%20RULES%20-%20KNOW%20BEFORE%20YOU%20GO%20-%20POSTER.pdf>

KENT COUNTY BEACH ADVISORIES: The Kent County Department of Health, Environmental Health Services Division conducts regular water quality tests to determine bacterial levels. When bacterial levels exceed acceptable levels (do not meet State and Federal water quality criteria), *swimming in open water such as beaches is not recommended. Signage will be posted until the advisory is lifted. Water samples are generally collected and tested 48 hours after the initial sampling (Monday through Friday), however sampling is not conducted during periods of heavy rainfall or immediately following heavy rainfall. This could result in longer periods an advisory is in effect. After rainfall, individuals should exercise caution and avoid swimming/direct water contact for at least 48 hours due to predicted high bacterial levels.

For the most up to date beach advisory information visit <https://kenthd.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2020-Beach-Advisories-KCHD-Website.pdf> or contact the Kent County Department of Health, Environmental Health Services Department at 410-778-1361.

QUESTIONS & CONCERNS: Administrative staff are generally available during business hours from 8:30 am until 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) by calling 410-778-1948 or by emailing info@KentParksAndRec.org. We strive to respond to phone and email messages on the same day received whenever possible and no more than one business day.

WEEKEND SUPPORT STAFF: Weekend Pool Cashiers and Facility Monitors (on duty at KCCC on Saturdays) are not full-time administrative staff and may not be able to answer all questions. In many cases, it may be necessary for staff to forward questions and contact information to administrative staff who will respond to inquiries during weekday business hours (unless for emergency situations which will be replied to as quickly as possible). ***Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding and please, be kind to staff on duty.***