



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



PUBLIC PARK USE GUIDELINES NOTICE

~REVISED May 8, 2020~

The following policies related to park entry, capacity and enforcement have been implemented at all Kent County parks in accordance with

Governor Larry Hogan's Proclamation for a State of Emergency and Existence of Catastrophic Health Emergency - COVID-19 and Kent County Health Department

Kent County parks are **OPEN FOR PUBLIC USE** for lawful recreational pursuits during daylight hours. The primary purpose of allowing patrons in parks during the health crisis is for exercise and to enjoy some fresh air. **Compliance with RESTRICTIONS and CONDITIONS as outlined herein is required. As applicable, Guidelines supersede pre-COVID-19 regulations until further notice.**

- High congestion, traffic and use areas such as select parking lots, pavilions, playgrounds and shelters are **CLOSED** for public use.
- **Limited restroom facilities** are “use at your own risk of contracting COVID-19.”
- **Face covers are highly encouraged.**
 - Amenities cordoned off with caution tape or other restrictive barrier are **CLOSED** for public use - **PLAYGROUNDS REMAIN CLOSED.**
- Water fountain (if applicable) is **CLOSED** for public use.
- All exclusive use reservations (fields, ball diamonds, pavilions, etc.) are **CANCELLED.**
 - New reservations are not permitted until further notice.
 - **Organized team/field sports activities are not permitted** until further notice.
- **Sport courts are OPEN - MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL/PHYSICAL DISTANCING.**
 - **Tennis court priority use is for playing tennis (and pickleball if applicable). Other permissible court use (i.e. small group fitness class, etc.) outside of priority use.**
- Patrons must responsibly follow gathering and social distancing guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to ensure a safe environment for employees and other guests.
- Patrons **MUST PRACTICE SOCIAL/PHYSICAL DISTANCING** by keeping distance between yourself and others and avoiding crowds.
 - **Social/physical distancing is the best way to slow the spread of COVID-19.**
 - Avoid handshaking, hugging and other intimate types of greeting • Avoid non-essential travel • Avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces • Avoid unnecessary errands - consider ways to have essential items, like food and other household supplies, brought to you through delivery services or through family or social networks.
- **County Government employees/park personnel have full authority and** shall disperse groups and large gatherings greater than 10 people. **Violators who do not comply with regulations will be asked to leave the premises.** Failure to leave premises after so directed shall be considered criminal trespassing which will result in a request for assistance from **LAW ENFORCEMENT.**