

PARKS & RECREATION
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PARKS & RECREATION
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May 15, 2020

First and foremost we want to thank everyone who completed our Parks & Recreation Reopening Survey and giving great feedback. We have compiled the comments and created a “Frequently Asked Questions” for the public. We are following the guidelines set by the CDC, the State of Florida, and Broward County and will continue to track the latest information in order for the City of Plantation to make the safest decisions and protect our community. As the number of positive cases are declining it is essential we don't open the flood gates at once and see the number of positive cases increase back to requiring Safer at Home mandates. All of the community feedback will be utilized to prioritize a timeline of reopening once the CDC, State of Florida, Broward County and City Administration find that the action is safe to resume. Below please find responses and links to access the most up to date information regarding the City of Plantation.

What parks are open and what do we have access to?

- Currently, parks are open for passive use only (walking, running, individual exercise, etc.). Playgrounds, fitness stations, and athletic fields are still closed based on current guidelines. Sunset Park is closed due to overcrowding of the space and participants not adhering to social distancing and use of face masks. Continue to check the Parks & Recreation Department website for up-to-day information regarding the status of our parks and recreation facilities <http://www.plantation.org/Parks-Recreation/>
- Veltri Tennis Center courts are currently open by reservation only for singles play. No other tennis courts are open at this time. To reserve a time slot please call the Tennis Court reservation line at 954-513-3540
- Central Park Pickleball Courts are currently open by reservation only. To reserve a time slot please call the Pickleball Court reservation line at 954-916-5616
- To access the guidelines please visit http://www.plantation.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Veltri_Pickleball-Info.pdf
- The Plantation Preserve Golf Course is open with certain restrictions: <http://www.plantation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Covid-19-Golf-Update-1.pdf>

Are masks required to be worn when using the Parks?

- Face masks are required for staff while working at an essential business or for those individuals using the service of the essential business. Face masks are encouraged for public use when participating in any activity where social distancing cannot be maintained. This information can be found in Broward County Emergency Order 20-08 on page 7, Section 7. <http://www.plantation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Emergency-Order-20-08.pdf>

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Why is the Aquatic Center not open?

- We are bound to follow the Broward County Emergency Order 20-08 (page 5) that states Recreational Pool Activities, “shall remain closed pursuant to Emergency Order 20-05 for all purposes”. Only pools located at residential and housing developments are permitted to be open following the specific guidelines. <http://www.plantation.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Emergency-Order-20-08.pdf>
- Florida’s “Safe. Smart. Step-by-Step.” plan for Florida’s Recovery is currently being updated and not available at this time as stated by the state website (May 14th, 2020). <https://www.flgov.com/covid-19/>
- We have a plan in place to safely reopen. Once we receive the green light from the State, Broward County and City Administrators we will get the information to the public ASAP

Why are some parks open but Happy Tails Dog Park is still closed?

- We are currently working on a plan to safely open Happy Tails Dog Park as it will need to be regulated by staff to ensure that the park is not overcrowded and users are adhering to social distancing guidelines. Once the park is open there will be strict guidelines and time slots that will need to be reserved in advance to control the crowds. The last thing we want to do is open a space and have to close it again due to the public not following the guidelines. The current target date for reopening is Tuesday, May 26th.

What precautions will you be implementing for the Summer Break Program?

- The safety of your children is our main priority at all times. We understand that not all families are able to stay with their kids and need access to the program as they are considered essential employees. We are continually updating our policies and procedures as new information is released from the CDC regarding summer camps. Following are the current protocols that are currently set in place:
 - o Groups will be at a ratio of 2 counselors to 8 campers. The group will be assigned a room at one of our locations and there will be no other interaction between other groups. Your child will be with the same group and counselors for the entire 8 week session.
 - o Disinfectant cleaner, face masks for staff, gloves and hand sanitizer have been purchased and stocked for the entire 8-week session. Campers are not required to wear masks at this time.
 - o Staff will be required to go through a health check prior to the beginning of their shift including temperature checks and answering very specific questions.
 - o All campers will be required to go through the same health screenings prior to your child being able to enter the facility. Temperature checks will take place when your child arrives as well as after lunch each day. Parents/Guardians will not be permitted in the facility at any point of the program. Children will be dropped off outside the facility for their health screen by a staff member and then escorted to their assigned group. Parents/Guardians will be assigned a placard for their windshield for picking up the camper. A staff member will verify by photo ID shown against their car window. The camper will be escorted out by a staff member.
 - o A strict cleaning schedule of common areas and bathrooms has been implemented along with a schedule for each group and their use of shared spaces. This allows staff time to sanitize and clean each space prior to the next group.

- Campers will be assigned their own set of arts & craft supplies. These will not be shared by other children in the group. Each group will also be assigned their own games/equipment that will not leave their room and will be sanitized multiple times per day.
- An online orientation will be sent to all participants in the program prior to June 15th that will give detailed information and videos on the program's procedures for staff, parents/guardians and campers.
- Information regarding the Summer Break Program can be found on our City website at <http://www.plantation.org/Parks-Recreation/camps.html>
- Any additional questions may be submitted by email to camps@plantation.org

Why are outdoor sports/activities still postponed?

- We understand the importance of physical activity for adults and children. That is one of the main goals and objectives of the Parks & Recreation Department. At this time the CDC and the State of Florida do not find it safe for our children to return to these activities at this time. We are continually reviewing all updates from Federal, State, and Local governments to ensure we are following the set guidelines. We are preparing behind the scenes to ensure that once we receive the approval we can implement any changes and get our activities back up and running while keeping all involved safe.

Are you able to emails the games/activities/fitness information and not only post online?

- Starting Monday, May 18th we will be sending out a weekly email highlighting all of the current updates with parks/facilities/activities and community information to our Plantation Now subscribers. The email will also include the current week's contests, health information, and link to our online videos and activities. If you are not currently part of our Plantation Now group, you can join by emailing plantationparks@gmail.com

When will the Fitness Centers/Gyms reopen?

- Based on the current guidelines set by the CDC, the State of Florida, and Broward County, fitness centers/gyms are to remain closed through Phase 1 of the State's reopening plan. Due to the size of our fitness centers/gyms and that Broward County is still in Phase 0, we will not look to reopen our fitness centers/gyms until after the completion of our Summer Break Program. <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/plan-for-floridas-recovery/>
- If you have a membership to one of our facilities, your membership will be extended for the time that the space was closed and you were unable to utilize your membership.

Where am I able to get the most up to date information?

- There are multiple areas to obtain the most updated information regarding COVID-19 from the City of Plantation:
 - City of Plantation Website COVID-19 page. You can find the latest City, State, and County Executive Orders, helpful resources, and daily Citizen Updates. <http://www.plantation.org/COVID19>
 - Social Media:
 - @PlantationParks (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter)
 - @CityofPlantationFL (Facebook, Nextdoor and Twitter)
 - Plantation Now emails (subscribe by emailing plantationparks@gmail.com)
 - Everbridge notifications <http://www.plantation.org/psd/everbridge.html>