



# Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation

Charter Township of Grand Blanc

April 4, 2020

Dear Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation Patrons,

## TEMPORARY CLOSURES IN WAKE OF COVID-19

I hope this letter finds you well in these trying times. As we all navigate these challenges it is imperative that we, as a community, stay healthy both physically and mentally. Governor Whitmer recognized the importance in her Executive Order 2020-21. She in part said:

*"Exceptions. Individuals may leave their home or place of residence, and travel as necessary... To engage in outdoor activity, including walking, hiking, running, cycling, or any other recreational activity consistent with remaining at least six feet from people from outside the individual's household."*

Our safety and well-being, as members of the Grand Blanc community is important to the continued prosperity of our community. We need to make sure we keep ourselves, our families, and our fellow community members safe. As the weather has improved and we have become more restless, Creasy Bicentennial Park has become well used. It's wonderful that so many people are embracing a healthy lifestyle, but by doing so the capacity in many parts of the park has increased, making it hard to properly practice social distancing.

Initially, park staff took steps to discourage gathering in areas such as restrooms and playgrounds and increased sanitization throughout frequently contacted areas. Signage was put up to remind people to practice social distancing and fellow park patrons have also taken it upon themselves to give friendly reminders to other park users. Unfortunately, these steps have not been enough to relieve congestion and discourage gathering in the park.

In order to preserve the safety of all park patrons, effective at Noon, Saturday April 4th, 2020, the following temporary restrictions will go into effect until it is deemed that these areas and activities pose no threat to public safety:

- All playgrounds will continue to remain closed
- All modern restrooms and pavilions will continue to remain closed

*Celebrating 50 Years of Community Enrichment*

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- The Senior Center will continue to remain closed
- The dog park will close
- The multi-use court, basketball and volleyball courts will close
- Organized groups, gatherings, athletic practices and pick-up games are prohibited
- All classes, activities, leagues and rentals for both the Recreation Division and Senior Center will remain postponed until we receive further guidance from the State and work with our community partners.

Passive recreation activities can continue out in the park while actively practicing social distancing. You may still walk, run or cycle the multi-use path, hiking trails or park roads. If you come across others, please remember to maintain at least six feet of distance. You can enjoy your favorite book under one of the many trees or search for the diverse wildlife that call the park home.

Maintenance staff are out at the park to keep it clean and safe, administrative staff are currently working from home answering phone calls, emails, and private messages as they come in, however if you don't make contact with one of our staff members please leave a message and we will return your request within 24 hours. As everything is very fluid and changing daily it is hard for us to be able to make any sort on concrete plans as it comes to programing, leagues, camps, special events and facility rentals. Rest assured our goal is to work with those effected by any postponements/cancellations to find the best solution.

Remember we are all in this together. Our main concern is for the safety of our park users, staff members and families. While this decision was not taken lightly, it was taken with everyone's best interest in mind. I look forward to the days when we can once again here the cracking of the bat, spectators cheering, and the families rejoicing. I wish you all the best of health and safety in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Linihan CPRP, CPSI, AFO  
Director