



NEWS Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 9, 2020

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CITY PARKS AND COMMUNITY POOL TO REOPEN

ROCKPORT, TX – The City of Rockport's Parks Department will reopen its system of parks on Monday, June 15. The Community Pool will open, with limited capacity, on Tuesday, June 16, for swim instruction lessons only, that have been scheduled, and opening to the public on June 17.

Memorial Park's new hours will be 5:30 am – 8:30 pm. All other city parks will resume regular hours as posted which are 5:30 am- 11:00 pm. Residents are asked to maintain social distancing while utilizing the facilities and wiping down equipment, e.g. Fitness Court and playground, after use. The parks staff plans are to clean and disinfect all areas on a routine basis. Sports Leagues will be required to register with the Parks Department and submit COVID-19 protection plans for approval.

The parks and pool were initially closed because of Executive Orders from the Governor. The closing was extended due to concerns related to the coronavirus. Both the citizen advisory committees for the Pool and Parks and Leisure Services voted to keep the parks closed after partial reopening was allowed through the “Open Texas” program.

With the facilities closed to the public, the staff was able to catch up on a back log of maintenance, as well as addressing acts of vandalism that occurred during the “Stay at Home” period, that would not have been possible with the parks in use. Additionally, a construction project to install a sewer main along the entire length of the Pearl Street side of Memorial Park was done the first two weeks of June and interfered with a soccer field, the entrance to the park, disc golf tees, picnic tables, and trails.

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Improvements include re-striping parking lots, painting the interior of all restroom facilities, repairs of playground structures and irrigation issues.

“We know that residents have been anxious for the park system to reopen,” noted Parks and Leisure Services Director Rick Martinez. “But we wanted to make sure we had all the protocols in place before doing so to ensure a safe environment for our visitors.”

Changes to the operation of the Community Pool include;

Tuesday- Closed to the public, reserved for swim lessons and in-service guard training

Wednesday- Saturday- Lap Swim from 8:00 am 9:00 am. Competition Pool

Wednesday-Saturday- Water exercise classes- 9:15- 10:15. Competition Pool

Wednesday-Saturday- Water Walkers -10:30- 11:30. Competition Pool

Wednesday-Saturday- Open Swim Blocks- 12:00pm- 2:30pm. & 3:00pm- 5:30 pm. Both pools

Each block will require a separate admission of \$5.00

“The pool will be closed between all sessions and blocks to allow the staff time to disinfect all areas before the next session begins. This schedule is a considered a soft opening, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and we ask the public to be patient, as we try to take the necessary safety measures to protect our patrons and our employees,” Martinez added. “This schedule will be adjusted as we move forward, so long as we do not experience a spike in corona virus cases. You may contact the pool directly at: 361-727-9989 for more information.”

