



City of Inver Grove Heights
Parks and Recreation Department
"Discover the Opportunities"

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May 2020

Dear Inver Grove Heights Residents,

This has been a challenging couple of months for all of us, and I know we are all doing what we can to safeguard our health and the health of our fellow citizens. The City has been carefully watching trends and decisions being made statewide and nationally about the use of parks, trails and open spaces. We continue to rely on this guidance to allow opportunities for our residents to get out and exercise for the benefit of their mental and physical health, while still practicing good hygiene habits and maintaining appropriate social distancing.

The purpose of this communication is to let you know the status of parks, programs, Inver Wood Golf Course and the Veterans Memorial Community Center.

- **Parks:** Most of the park system will reopen on **Monday, May 18**. It will take us a week or so to get some of the amenities in place. Please see the attached guide for further details. Please be prepared to provide your own hand sanitizer while using the park system.
- **Inver Wood Golf Course:** Inver Wood Golf Course is open for business, to book a tee time please visit www.inverwood.org.
- **Organized Athletics:** Once Governor Walz allows for organized athletics in the state of Minnesota, it will take us approximately two weeks to prepare fields and facilities. Athletic associations using our fields/facilities will be required to submit a COVID-19 operations plan to us before we allow use of our fields.
- **Veteran Memorial Community Center:** Currently we are targeting opening the facility in small, progressive stages starting on Monday, July 6. As we get comfortable operating under new COVID-19 guidelines, we will begin to reopen additional portions of the building over the course of several weeks/months. We will provide additional detail by June 15.
- **Recreation Programs:** We will be modifying our summer program offerings to meet attendance and social distancing requirements, as well as other COVID-19 guidelines which are needed to provide safe and fun programs. We tentatively plan on recreation programs beginning on July 6.
- **Senior Programming:** Programming at the Senior Center will be delayed until later this fall due to the special attention needed to program for this age demographic.

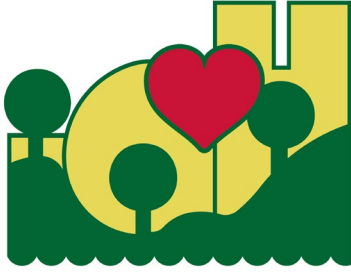
We want to thank you for all your patience and cooperation. We know this has not been easy, but we are getting through this together. Please visit our website at www.invergroveheights.org for the most updated information. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at ecarlson@invergroveheights.org.

I hope you, your family and friends remain safe and secure. Thank you for helping us protect the community.

Sincerely,

Eric Carlson
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Inver Grove Heights

CC Mayor and City Council
Park & Recreation Commission
Department Heads



Inver Grove Heights Park and Recreation Department COVID-19 Park Use Plan

As of Monday, May 18, 2020

The mission of the City of Inver Grove Heights is to provide services and facilities that enhance the quality of life in our vibrant community. As stewards of our community's park and recreation resources/assets the City values doing the right thing by making **ethical** decisions, **engaging** our community to develop collaborative results as we pursue **excellence** by setting high standards and exceeding expectation. Our values have guided us in making decisions about what should be closed and opened to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic and we continue to focus on the safety of our residents and city staff.

The public that uses the Inver Grove Heights Park and Recreation system should be advised that the City of Inver Grove Heights follows best practices to operate and maintain our overall system. The COVID-19 pandemic has created unprecedented challenges for public park and recreation professionals and the City of Inver Grove Heights is doing our best to protect the safety of the public. While we will take reasonable measures to ensure our system is safe, we cannot guarantee that our programs, facilities, and park amenities are free of the COVID-19 virus and as a user of these services you acknowledge this and accept risk while using these services. Please use our parks, open spaces, programs, facilities and trails by following recommendations provided by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) which can be found at www.cdc.gov

To protect yourself, the public, and others you should:

- Stay home if you are sick
- Wash your hands and practice good personal hygiene
- Practice social distancing, staying 6' feet away from people not in your immediate family/household
- Do not congregate in groups larger than 10 people
- We encourage the use of masks by those using public park and recreation facilities

<u>Park Amenity</u>	<u>Information</u>
Baseball/Softball Fields	<p>Ball fields are open for <u>recreational</u> use in groups of fewer than 10 people in the same family/household, users should practice proper social distancing.</p> <p>Fields are <u>closed</u> to all organized athletic programs. The City is not disinfecting gates, bases, fencing, benches, bleachers. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. Users are encouraged to sanitize all balls, gloves, bats frequently.</p> <p>At such time Governor Walz allows organized athletic competition, those groups who wish to use city facilities will need to submit a COVID-19 safety plan which outlines how the user will provide a safe program/experience for athletes, coaches, parents, and spectators.</p>
Basketball Courts	Basketball courts are closed until the COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized.
Community Gardens	Community gardens are located in Salem Hills Park and can be rented for the season by visiting our website at http://www.ci.inver-grove-heights.mn.us/151/Current-Brochure
Disc Golf Course	The disc golf course at North Valley Park is open for play, participants should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting baskets. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. Users are encouraged to sanitize all discs and equipment frequently.
Drinking Fountains	Drinking fountains are <u>closed</u> until the COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized.
Fishing	Shoreland fishing and fishing piers at Lions and Simley Island Parks are open for use, users should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting fishing piers. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. A fishing license issued from the DNR is required. Fishing license information can be found at: https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/licenses/fishing/index.html
Horseshoe Pits	The horseshoe pits are open for play, participants should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting pits.

	Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. Users are encouraged to sanitize all shoes and equipment frequently.
Mountain Bike	Trails at Salem Hills/Harmon Parks are open to public use, users should practice proper social distancing. Please note that the basketball/tennis court is under construction and the public should avoid the construction zone for your own safety.
Off-Leash Dog Park	The Heritage Village off-leash dog park is open for users who have a valid dog park pass. Users should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting gates, benches, trash containers etc. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. All dog owners must always keep their dog(s) on a leash when they are using other portions of our park and trail system. If you don't have a dog park pass you can get one by visiting our website at http://www.ci.inver-grove-heights.mn.us/442/Heritage-Village-Park-and-Off-Leash-Dog-
Pickleball Courts	Three (3) pickleball court nets are provided at North Valley Park. The remaining three (3) nets will not be installed to help encourage social distancing. The City is not disinfecting nets, gates, handles, benches, and tables. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. Users are encouraged to sanitize all balls, racquets, and equipment frequently.
Picnic Shelters	Picnic shelters are open to casual/unorganized use, people using shelters should practice proper social distancing and in groups smaller than 10 people in the same family/household. Shelters are <u>closed</u> to private/large group reservations until the COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized. The City is not disinfecting shelters, tables, grills, and benches. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer.
Playgrounds	All playgrounds are open for use by the public, users should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting playground equipment, users should provide their own hand sanitizer.
Portable Toilets	The City provides portable toilets in the park system to help support active use areas. The City is not disinfecting portable toilets. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer.

Recreation Building	All recreation buildings in the park system are <u>closed</u> until the COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized.
Sand Volleyball Courts	Sand Volleyball courts are closed until the COVID-19 pandemic has stabilized
Skate Park	The skate park is open for use by the public, users should practice proper social distancing. The City is not disinfecting skate park equipment. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer.
Soccer Fields	<p>Soccer fields are open for <u>recreational</u> use in groups of fewer than 10 people in the same family/household, users should practice proper social distancing.</p> <p>Fields are <u>closed</u> to all organized athletic programs. Users are encouraged to sanitize all balls and equipment frequently.</p> <p>At such time Governor Walz allows organized athletic competition, those groups who wish to use city facilities will need to submit a COVID-19 safety plan which outlines how the user will provide a safe program/experience for athletes, coaches, parents, and spectators.</p>
Tennis Courts	A single tennis court net is provided at Skyview, Oakwood, Rich Valley and Groveland. The second net will not be installed at Skyview and Oakwood to help encourage social distancing. The City is not disinfecting nets, gates, and handles. Users should provide their own hand sanitizer. Users are encouraged to sanitize all balls, racquets, and equipment frequently.
Trails	Open for use, please practice social distancing.