



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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UPDATES TO PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES

COMMUNITY CENTERS, SPORTS GAMES, RIVERBEND PARK SET FOR JUNE 15 REOPENING

WACO, TEXAS (June 3, 2020) – The City of Waco Parks and Recreation Department is continuing its phased reopening of facilities and services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. With public safety concerns being a high priority, many programs and recreation opportunities have been modified. Staff will implement measures to protect facility visitors and program participants.

The Parks and Recreation administration office has reopened to the public, and here is how we look forward to continue bringing recreation to the community:

RECess! Summer Programming

- RECess! is our interactive campaign, which will bring a variety of recreation opportunities to the public. **The campaign is launching today.**
- With many of our summer camps and programs cancelled, this program will provide alternative recreation experiences through virtual activities and daily at-home adventures.
- Each day, there will be a RECess! feature posted on the department's Facebook account. Examples of these posts include arts and craft demonstrations, fitness workouts, department profiles and park adventures.
- Additionally, a weekly list of daily activities for kids will be posted at www.waco-texas.com. A packet of these activities will also be available for pick-up at our community centers.
- As the summer progresses, staff will continue to develop mobile recreation and program opportunities at the centers to keep local children and families engaged and active.

Community Centers and Rental Facilities

- **The department's outdoor pavilions, indoor facilities and park areas are now available for rental.** Renters should follow the public safety protocols and social distancing guidelines that are in place from the State of Texas.
- **Bledsoe-Miller, Dewey and South Waco community centers will reopen to the public on June 15 with social distancing measures in place.**
 - The centers will be open from:
 - Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
 - Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 - Access to certain areas of the centers, along with the availability of community classes and meetings, may be limited as we continue to abide by the health protocols from the Department of State Health Services.

- The locker rooms and game rooms will remain closed until further notice.
- The Harrison Center and Sul Ross Center will remain closed to senior programming until further notice.

Riverbend Park and Sports Games

- **Beginning June 15, organized sports games and competitions can resume on city property and city facilities.**
- **The Riverbend Park baseball / softball complex will reopen for practices and tournaments on June 15.**
- Teams, sports organizations and game hosts should follow public safety protocols and social distancing guidelines that are in place from the State of Texas.

Waco Mammoth National Monument

- In conjunction with the National Park Service, the Waco Mammoth National Monument has implemented a phased return approach and has opened its trail system, picnic area and restrooms. Hands-free, outdoor interpretative stations are also available for visitors.
- There is currently no admission fee to enter the park.
- Dig shelter tours have been temporarily suspended, and park buildings remain closed at this time.

For more information, visit www.waco-texas.com or the department's social media channels.

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Find out more at Waco-Texas.com

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