

City of East Grand Forks to Close Playgrounds, Encourages Social Distancing in Parks

East Grand Forks, MN - April 7, 2020 - The City of East Grand Forks will close playgrounds in all City parks beginning Tuesday, April 7 until further notice to help stop the spread of COVID-19. Park and Recreation staff would like to remind all park users that playground equipment is not being regularly sanitized at this time. All Park users are asked to stay off all playground equipment, slides, swing sets, etc. within each City park. In addition to playgrounds, the Greenway Trails will also remain closed until further notice due to spring flooding.

The City parks and open spaces will remain open for outdoor activity, within the guidelines for safe social distancing and hygiene laid out by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Recreation users are reminded they should avoid group activities, group play such as games on athletic fields, basketball courts, and tennis courts, and adhere to social distancing and appropriate hygiene practices. Before playgrounds are reopened, the situation will be evaluated.

During the COVID-19 situation, we ask all users to follow and consider these rules:

- If exhibiting symptoms or not feeling well, please do not use public parks and open spaces
- Keep sanitary personal hygiene, washing your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds using soap and hot water.
- Cover your cough and sneezes.
- Practice social distancing. Keep 6 feet between yourself and others at all times.
- Be courteous of others personal space. If needed, step aside to let others pass on sidewalks and trails.
- Limit the size of groups, including outdoor picnics, pick-up sports and other group hangouts

Visit MDH's website at <http://bit.ly/mncoronavirus> for the most up-to-date information on COVID-19.

Updates from the City of East Grand Forks will be posted at <http://egf.mn/551/COVID-19> or sign up for email and text updates at egf.mn/CivicAlerts

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