



Village of Scarsdale

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Parks, Recreation and Conservation Department
914-722-1160

Scarsdale Parks: Use Restrictions and Programming Update

The Village of Scarsdale recognizes the physical and mental health benefits of recreation and has been working in collaboration with Westchester County officials to influence rules promulgated through NYS Executive Order such that we are able to safely open as many facilities, activities, and programs as safely possible under the circumstances.

Importantly, Executive Orders issued pursuant to a declared emergency carry significant legal weight and the Village has no discretionary authority to override or modify the State's regulatory measures, which are grounded in the advice and counsel of public health officials. Rather, we are required to modify facility usage rules and make difficult decisions about canceling or delaying popular recreation activities and programs in order to remain compliant with the NYS mandates.

Please note that the Village has been working diligently to expedite a return to some semblance of normalcy, including endeavoring to authorize as many recreational activities as the State will allow. Our programming and facility decisions are intended to protect public health, safety, and welfare, and are guided by Executive Orders promulgated by Governor Cuomo.

Some of our programs require significant advance planning and investment. In an uncertain regulatory environment, there comes a point where our planning horizon becomes so short that the investment necessary to successfully launch a program or activity that will likely be canceled becomes too great a financial risk, particularly in view of the austerity measures already instituted in response to forecasted revenue declines in connection with regional and national economic conditions.

With that backdrop, the most difficult decision we are making this week is to cancel our Summer Camps; see the Programming and Activities section below for more information. However, please also note that we remain optimistic that our weeklong camps in August or sooner will still be offered.

The good news, on the other hand, is that Governor Cuomo has now authorized tennis courts to reopen; see the Programming and Activities section of this press release for more info.

General Info: All Facilities, Programs, and Activities

Please adhere to all rules and regulations governing use of our parks and facilities. If you are unsure, contact Parks, Recreation and Conservation staff by phone at 914-722-1160, or by email using recreation@scarsdale.com. During evenings and weekends, please contact the Scarsdale Police Department at 914-722-1200.

It remains critically important for all parks and open space users to practice social distancing and to wear a face covering when in public and unable to maintain at least six feet separation from any other person.

All park restroom facilities remain closed at this time.

Prohibited Activities and Uses

The following activities and uses continue to be universally prohibited throughout all Village of Scarsdale parks and recreational facilities:

- Public gatherings of any size, consistent with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order.
- Use of playground equipment.
- Any court or other facility with a sign prohibiting use.
- Team sports, e.g., baseball, football, lacrosse, soccer, etc.

Basketball courts, bathrooms, playground equipment, and exercise stations remain closed.

Passive Use Guidance

Passive and solitary recreational use of open facilities and spaces is authorized, but social distancing of at least six feet is required.

Examples of "passive use" activities include, for example, birding, hiking, walking, jogging, kite flying, and small family group (same household) recreation activities, except the prohibited activities and uses listed above.

See the Parks and Open Space Restrictions for updated information about where passive uses are now authorized.

Please also note that a mask/face covering is mandatory for all park and facility visitors when within six feet of others.

Programming and Activities

Summer Camps (Camps Sagamore, Lenape, Wapetuck, Pathunke, Sports, Soccer, Teen Travel)

Unfortunately, our Summer Camps must be canceled. Because of current restrictions imposed by NYS, the Westchester County Department of Health is unable to issue the necessary operating permits at this time. That, in combination with the amount of preparatory work and investment necessary to make the

camps safe and successful, leaves us no alternative but to skip the 2020 Summer Camp season. We remain optimistic, however, that our weeklong camps may be offered in August or sooner.

Pending additional guidance from the Westchester County Department of Health, we are continuing to consult with our program vendors in an effort to offer the weeklong specialty camps throughout July and August.

The decision to cancel our camp programs was not made lightly and we appreciate your support and understanding as we continue to navigate the evolving regulatory and public health landscape.

Tennis Courts and Lesson Programs

Good news – we're opening 14 of the Village's 26 tennis courts on Friday, May 22! Advance reservations are required and some rules apply, so keep reading to learn more.

To be in compliance with NYS rules and regulations guiding reopening our tennis courts, we will be following United State Tennis Association (USTA) COVID-19 playing recommendations, which support the applicable NYS public health objectives and mandates.

All players need to help be sure we can keep the courts open by demonstrating compliance with the reservation process and facility rules:

- Players must have a valid Tennis Permit to access courts. Permits are available for purchase [online](#) from the Parks and Recreation website [registration page](#).
- Reservations are mandatory and limited to one-hour timeslots to ensure residents have equal opportunity for play. Once we gauge demand, this policy may be revisited.
- [Court Reservations](#) will be accepted online starting Thursday, May 20, and must be made at least 24 hours prior to play; reservation option will not appear until activated on Thursday.
- Please arrive ten minutes prior to your reservation and wait in the designated area while maintaining social distancing – no groups; face covering required within six feet of others.
- Tennis play will be limited to singles play, only.
- Players must check-in with attendant before playing; face covering required at check-in.
- All players will be required to show a photo ID or permit when checking-in.
- No lessons are permitted – only residents and their registered guests playing singles games.
- Bathroom facilities will remain closed – please prepare accordingly.
- Players may choose to wear a face covering and gloves while playing, but not mandatory.

Tennis Lessons (Series 1): Canceled.

Tennis Lessons (Series 2): Decision to prorate lesson series anticipated on or about June 15.

Scarsdale Municipal Pool Complex

The 2020 pool season has been postponed with a new tentative opening date of Saturday, July 18. Six weeks of advance planning and costly work are necessary to support the proposed opening date. Thus, the pool season will be subject to cancelation if NYS officials are unable to provide a timely decision, or otherwise direct that public and commercial pools not be opened this year. Should we be able to open, pro-rated pool permits will be made available for the shortened season.

Spring/Summer Early Season Program Updates

Adult Softball League: Decision anticipated on or about June 1.

Bike and Blade Night: Decision anticipated on or about June 1.

Weinberg Nature Center Exploring Green Earth: Decision anticipated on or about May 22.

Summer Programs (July and August)

Decisions anticipated on or about June 15 and July 15, respectively.

Fireworks Spectacular

With the pool complex closed during the period, the July 2 Fireworks Spectacular is canceled.

Other Special Events

Decisions on the following programs have not been made at this time and depend on a number of variables, including the ability to hold each event in compliance with public health mandates and guidelines in-place at the time of each event:

- Summer concert series with Westchester Band in Chase Park
- Parties in the Park

Parks and Open Space Restrictions by Facility Location

[Aspen Park](#): Passive use area open, with social distancing; playground closed.

[Boulder Brook Field](#): Passive use of sporting field is authorized, with social distancing.

[Brite Avenue Tennis](#): Two of the four tennis courts will open Friday, May 22, with reservations required. Paddle Courts are closed.

[Chase Park](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[Colonial Acres Park](#): Passive use area open, with social distancing; playground closed.

[Corell Park](#): Passive use area open, with social distancing; playground closed.

[Crossway Complex](#): Passive use authorized on fields 1,2,3,4, and 5, with social distancing; playground remains closed. Three of the five tennis courts will open Friday, May 22, with reservations required.

[Davis Park](#): Passive use area open, with social distancing; playground closed.

[De Lima Park](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[George Field Park](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[Greenacres Playground](#): Playground closed.

[Harwood Park & Library Pond](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[High School Tennis and Paddle Courts](#): Paddle Courts are closed. Five of the ten tennis courts will open Friday, May 22, with reservations required.

[Hyatt Park](#): Passive use of athletic fields is authorized, with social distancing; playground and basketball courts are closed.

[Memorial Garden](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[Red Maple Swamp](#): Passive use authorized, with social distancing.

[Middle School](#): Three of six tennis courts will open Friday, May 22, with reservations required.

[Scarsdale Pool Complex](#): Planned opening Saturday, July 18, subject to County permitting.

[Scout Field/Willow Playground](#): Passive use of sporting field is authorized, with social distancing; playground is closed.

[Supply Field](#): Passive use of sporting fields is authorized, with social distancing.

[Weinberg Nature Center](#): Trails are open, with social distancing; Nature Center is closed and on-site programs are canceled.

[Winston Field](#): Passive use of sporting field is authorized, with social distancing.

[Wynmor Park](#): Playground is closed; tennis court opens Friday, May 22, with reservations required.

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