



TO: All sports leagues/clubs

Greetings,

We have just received instructions from City Hall Management to **keep our sports fields closed longer, through Friday June 12.**

Currently, subject to change, our first date of sports fields use is Saturday June 13.

This decision was made based on yesterday's extension of the [Governor's Executive Order #2020-77](#) (through May 28), in combination with realistically looking at our Department's operational possibilities.

- After May 28, it will take our Department some time to get back up and running, getting seasonal staff on board, and getting fields and facilities ready. By now this may sound like a broken record to you, but please realize seasonal employees can not start working yet because we currently still are under a hiring freeze due to the Covid-19 situation.
- The new June 13 starting date is consistent with our standard of making a decision about a month out, while leaving about a two week window to get operations running from when things might loosen up after May 28.

1. FULL CREDITS:

Your cancelled reservations will be fully credited 100% to your account in our reservation system.

Updated permits (showing your credits and balances) will be emailed to you ASAP, but please give us a few days to process because we have many customers.

As always, credits (*from Covid-19, rain-outs, other cancellations, or over-payments*) can be:

1. Used at any time in the future for reservation changes/additions.
2. Used to pay for field light fees.
3. Refunded to you upon request (in writing).
 - However, refunds are very labor intensive for City Hall staff, so we prefer to handle any of your refunds collectively at the end of your permit/season.

2. NEW RESERVATIONS:

You may submit new field requests to extend your season into summer, if your schedule allows.

Availability Calendars are posted on our website.

However, reservations for league GAMES will be given priority over reservations for PRACTICES and SCRIMMAGES.



- Details will become available after we discuss new deadlines with the leagues.
- **Ball diamond** practices and scrimmages may submit new requests starting May 29 (for the period of June 13 and after).
 - Please make sure to check our Availability Calendars on our website (see *link below my email signature*).
 - Please make sure to use the "How to make a field reservation" instructions on our website (see *link below my email signature*).
- **Soccer field** requests are on hold until MSYSA has announced updated information regarding cancelled or downsized leagues: <http://www.michiganyouthsoccer.org/>

We encourage you to subscribe to [Web Updates notification: Notify Me](#) to receive email notifications about our web updates.

3. COME OUT, SPREAD OUT!

Parks are essential to the quality of life, especially now during the Covid-19 period. Therefore we are currently working in a **"Come Out, Spread Out!"** mode of operation:

- This means we are providing partial services in our parks through May 28.
- **General use of open areas in all our parks is allowed, provided that**
 - responsible **social distancing** practices are observed, and
 - the Governor's Executive Order is being followed:
 - https://content.govdelivery.com/attachments/MIEOG/2020/05/07/file_attachments/1446124/EO%202020-77.pdf
- Park buildings, offices, facilities, restrooms, playgrounds, sports courts, etc. are all closed to the public until further notice.
- Programs and reservations have been cancelled for the duration of the Governor's Executive Order.
- For more general parks information, please contact the Parks & Natural Resources office at City Hall at 248-656-4673 or email parks@rochesterhills.org

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there is anything else we can do for you.

Meanwhile, please be well and above all please **BE SAFE!**

Regards,

Bert Hallewas, CPRP

Park Ranger - Sports

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