Frequently Asked Questions for the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

COVID-19 - Updated June 5, 2020

How will entering the 'Green Phase' of Reopening Pennsylvania impact Pittsburgh's parks?

The parks are open and usable during the 'Green Phase' of Reopening Pennsylvania. Remember to follow physical distancing, masking and other personal health recommendations provided by Governor Tom Wolf and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) during your park visits.

Do park safety measures remain in place during the 'Green Phase' of Reopening Pennsylvania?

Yes. The safety of park users and Parks Conservancy employees remains our top priority as we continue combatting COVID-19. As Allegheny County moves into the Green Phase of Reopening Pennsylvania, aggressive mitigation remains. It's vital that in the Green Phase park users continue to follow all safety guidelines, such as physical distancing and masking when visiting public spaces. Aggressive mitigation activity will remain until Pennsylvania the 'new normal' of the reopening process.

What are approved park activities?

Activities that allow for physical distancing are recommended. Visiting a park is a great way to get your steps in, walk a furry friend, explore a new trail, or try to top a personal best mile. The following activities can safely comply with physical distancing and are allowed: tennis courts (singles matches encouraged), pickle ball courts (singles matches encouraged), skate parks, fields (but not for organized group sports), frisbee golf, lawn bowling, bocci courts.

What is physical distancing?

Physical distancing is defined as maintaining six to eight feet between you and other individuals. Remember, six feet is a large amount of space.

Are City recreation centers and senior centers open at this time?

No, not at this time. Please check the following webpage for updates provided by the City of Pittsburgh: pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks

Have organized sports including deck hockey, soccer, baseball and basketball resumed?

No, not at this time. Please check the following webpage for updates provided by the City of Pittsburgh: pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks

What Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy programs and events are cancelled at this time?

The Parks Conservancy has closed all facilities and cancelled all programs and events until further notice. Please check back for updates.

Can I take my children to a playground now?

No, playgrounds located in Pittsburgh's parks remain closed.

Are spray parks, swimming pools, and park shelters open?

No, City of Pittsburgh spray parks, swimming pools, and park shelters remain closed at this time. Please check the following webpage for updates provided by the City of Pittsburgh: https://pittsburghpa.gov/citiparks/

Should I visit a park if I am not feeling well?

No. Please follow the guidance of the CDC and refrain from public spaces if you are not feeling well. Anyone experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as coughing, fever, or loss of smell (an early indicator of the virus) need to refrain from visiting all public spaces, including parks. People exhibiting symptoms can easily spread the virus.

Are restrooms in the park currently open?

There is limited access to public restrooms in the park system during this time. Public restrooms maintained by the Parks Conservancy remain closed. These include restrooms at the Frick Environmental Center, Schenley Plaza, and Schenley Visitor Center.

Am I allowed to take my dog to the dog park?

Dog parks remain open for use. However, please remember to practice physical distancing when visiting the dog park. Remember, dogs may only be off leash only in designated locations. Please remember to keep your fur-friend on a leash when visiting the parks.

It's a beautiful weekend and I want to get outside. Where should I go?

We're fortunate to have many parks and green spaces in Pittsburgh. Explore the urban forest by discovering a new trail to hike or enjoy a walk through your neighborhood or spend time in your backyard. The possibilities to enjoy the benefits of nature are endless, but you must remember to follow physical distancing guidelines if you are in a public setting.

Should I wear a face mask when visiting the park?

Governor Wolf and the CDC recommend that masks be worn in public spaces to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Click here to learn more about making your own face mask with items in your home: http://pa.gov/covid-19