The City of Evanston Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department is pleased to announce the reopening of our outdoor playgrounds as an outdoor recreation activity under new guidelines to manage the health and safety of our community. By reopening, our intention is to provide another opportunity for a healthy outdoor activity while keeping within the recommended health guidelines.

We will continuously evaluate the situation and inform the community of any decisions made. We recognize the seriousness of the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and urge residents to stay home if they are sick, or if they’ve been in contact with someone who is sick.

If you **must** use the playgrounds, please keep in mind that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, can spread when young children touch contaminated objects, and then touch their eyes, nose, or mouth. Guardians and parents must be vigilant and help children follow guidelines. Indoor playgrounds are closed.

**Before you go to the playground:**

- Read the guidelines.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Stay home if you have household members who are sick or have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Wash your hands with a disinfectant soap and water (20 seconds or longer) or use a hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available before going to the playground.
- Be prepared to bring sanitizing wipes to wipe down playground surfaces with recommended cleaning products if you choose to use the playground equipment. (Playgrounds will not be cleaned regularly or at all.)

**While at the playground:**

- Parents and guardians must be vigilant and ensure that children follow the playground guidelines
- Playing with household members is strongly encouraged.
- Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet away from people you don’t live with.
- Avoid areas already in use by others who are not household members if you cannot maintain at least six feet of separation
- Wear a cloth face covering. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2 or persons who cannot tolerate a face covering due to a medical condition.
- Avoid sharing food or drinks with people who are not members of your household.
- Use hand sanitizer and sanitize frequently and immediately after touching playground equipment.
- The playgrounds are limited to not more than 50 persons. If a playground is at capacity, please come back at a later time.
- Do not leave items on the playground. Take all items home with you when you leave
- Report situations of noncompliance to the authorities.
If these rules are not followed, the City of Evanston reserves the right to close the playgrounds immediately or take other steps as needed. Additionally, if the City’s Health and Human Services Department or Governor issues mandates closing playgrounds and/or the Illinois Department of Public Health adjusts their recommendations, the City of Evanston will act accordingly.

If you have any questions or concerns, please or text call (847) 448-4311.