



Parks & Recreation

Ground Floor
411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802



218-730-4300



parks@duluthmn.gov

October 14, 2020

Dear Duluth Parks and Recreation User,

The City of Duluth Property, Parks, and Libraries Department has begun to carefully reopen a small number of Parks and Recreation buildings that have been mostly or entirely closed since the onset of the pandemic in the spring. This initial phase of reopening will be limited to three buildings – Morgan Park Community Center, Washington Center Gymnasium, and Portman Community Center – that will be managed, used, and cleaned in accordance with disease prevention plans consistent with federal and state guidelines.

The City is reopening these buildings with the aim of establishing a balance between providing the Parks and Recreation services and facilities that will be increasingly important for the community's emotional well-being this winter and restricting the kinds of indoor activities that contribute to disease spread.

To check on availability of reservations at Portman or Morgan Park, as well as outdoor park spaces and pavilions, check our Reservations page: <https://duluthmn.gov/parks/reservations-permits/> or contact Chris Severson, Permits Coordinator, at 730-4305 or cseverson@duluthmn.gov.

To inquire about reservations at the Washington Center Gym, as well as other athletic facilities, please contact Nick Budnik, Recreation Specialist, at 730-4314 or nbudnik@duluthmn.gov.

Please note that parties that rent Parks facilities will be required to have a City-approved disease prevention plan outlining how they will take action to prevent the spread of COVID-19 consistent with federal, state, and city guidelines. Templates for such plans are available through our Parks Division or groups may submit plans in their own format.

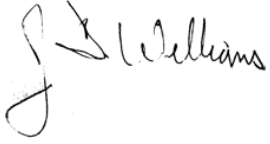
If you would like to register for one of our recreation programs, the schedule and registration information is available at: <https://duluthmn.gov/parks/programs-events/general-programs/> Fall programs through the end of the year are available for registration now. Each program has been adapted to meet federal and state guidelines.

In addition to the three City-managed Parks and Recreation buildings that will remain open, the City will continue to permit organizations that lease City buildings and have City-approved disease prevention plans to open to the public so long as they strictly comply with plan requirements.

Parks buildings that will remain closed through the winter include Grant Community Center, Lafayette Community Center, Harrison Community Center, Wade Stadium, and Wheeler Fieldhouse. City staff have begun winterizing and locking these buildings for the season. These buildings need to remain closed because a City workforce temporarily reduced by layoffs is insufficient to carry out the intensified pandemic cleaning regimen in all Parks buildings.

Please note that public access to Parks buildings may be further restricted if disease spread continues to intensify. Should that prove necessary, reservations will be cancelled and payments fully refunded.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Filby Williams". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jim Filby Williams
Director, Property, Parks, and Libraries Department



**Duluth Parks
& Recreation**
www.duluthmn.gov

The City of Duluth is an Equal Opportunity Employer.