



ROSELLE PARK DISTRICT

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rparks.org

Dear Roselle Park District Resident:

Thank you to all of you who responded to our Kemmerling Survey. We received over 570 responses.

- 53% of the respondents were either not planning to buy a pass or were undecided
- 60% of the respondents were either not planning to purchase daily admission or were undecided
- 67% of the respondents were not planning to register for a pool program
- 49% of the respondents were moderately uncomfortable to uncomfortable with social distancing at Kemmerling

Although the responses are not surprising, they reflect how people feel about reacclimating to the new "normal". Safety is always at the fore front of our decision-making process. Public pools were not included in phase three of the Governor's Restore Illinois Plan and there has been no clear communication sent from the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH) on operations of public aquatic facilities. Without concrete guidance from the IDPH on opening aquatic facilities and operational challenges associated with social distancing protocols, it greatly saddens us to announce that we are indefinitely suspending the 2020 Kemmerling Pool and Turner Park Splash Pad season.

During the Governor's mandated shelter in place, the District has not been able to provide most services and programs to the community, and we project the losses to be more than \$460K in non-tax dollar revenue. Much of the District's overall funding is generated from user fees, memberships, and facility rental fees. Approximately 100 part-time and full-time staff have been furloughed and will not return to active employment until it is financially feasible. Unlike other taxing entities, park districts depend heavily on program fees to operate, rather than property taxes alone. We also wanted to make you aware of a few other summer District updates:

- When we can safely reopen, the focus will be on programs and offerings that best meet the community's needs, including day camps, adult fitness, and use of the parks.
- No outdoor rentals or facility rentals will be taken for June.
- Parks and paths will remain open for walking, jogging, and biking under the current social distance requirements.
- Tennis Courts are open but will be closed if social distancing expectations are not met
- Brochures and programming will be available online only until further notice to provide maximum flexibility and cost savings.
- Additional programs/Virtual programs are being planned within the guidelines of the Restore Illinois watch social media and the website for information. We will continue to post updates at www.rparks.org related to programming.

We look forward to the lifting of the stay at home order so that the District, along with everyone else, can begin to transition back to a new "normal". We miss you and want to service the community as soon as possible within the guidelines set forth by the Governor and state and local health departments.

Be Safe!

Lynn McAteer, Director