



## **Important Parks & Rec News**

### **Responding to COVID-19**

(updated October 2, 2020)

The Maryville-Alcoa-Blount County Parks and Recreation Commission values the health and safety of our community and staff, especially at this time when Coronavirus (COVID-19) is of great concern. It is important to keep our community informed on current procedures to address this concern, especially in regard to public facilities and gathering areas.

In accordance with CDC recommendations, and to follow guidelines shared by the joint state and local governments of Blount County, here is what we are doing to take extra precautions in an effort to help reduce the spread of the virus in our area:

- The Everett Recreation Center and the MLK Jr. Center are open with limited capacity and programming. Springbrook Recreation Center is open for rentals only. The Everett Senior Center will be closed until mid-October.
- Pavilion rentals are available.
- Several programs and events have been modified. Please check our website ([www.parksrec.com](http://www.parksrec.com)) for updates.
- Information on athletic activities is updated on our website ([www.parksrec.com](http://www.parksrec.com)), and communicated through our staff and coaches.
- Tennis courts, pickleball courts, and playgrounds are open. Basketball courts remain closed at this time.
- During this time, we will be cleaning all facilities and continuing park upkeep, especially in high use areas.
- Our parks are open, and we encourage you to get outside to enjoy fresh air – even as you practice good social distancing. Please be vigilant in protecting yourself and others. We have a fun fall & winter planned, and we want to help you stay healthy so you can enjoy it!

The joint governments of Blount County have created an extremely useful information page regarding updated CDC recommendations, as well as links from trusted sources and precautionary information. Please check this site often, as conditions will continually change: <https://www.maryvillegov.com/covid-19-blount-information.html>

We will monitor situations carefully, re-evaluate our scheduled programs often, and communicate any changes as necessary. Please check our website ([www.parksrec.com](http://www.parksrec.com)) for program or event information, or call us at 865-983-9244 if you have specific questions regarding other Parks & Rec facilities or activities.

Thank you for your patience, and we look forward to getting our community back together soon!