

How COVID-19 is impacting Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation: FAQ

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Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation Administration Building is currently closed to the public. If you cannot find the answer to your question below, please email fun@vb.gov.

REC CENTERS

When will the recreation centers reopen?

As of July 6, all seven recreation centers have reopened with some restrictions. Currently, the centers are only available to members and reservations are required. [For detailed information pertaining to use of the rec centers, please review the Rec Center Reopening FAQ that can be found at \[VBgov.com/reopen\]\(http://VBgov.com/reopen\).](#)

Do I have to pay for my membership for the time the rec centers were closed?

We automatically extended rec center memberships to compensate for the days that we were closed through the end of July 2020.

How do I renew or purchase a new membership?

As of Sept. 8, memberships will be available for purchase/renewal both online and over the phone. For more information, visit VBgov.com/reopen or call your recreation center.

Can I upgrade my current membership to a Premier membership (includes group fitness classes)?

If you would like to upgrade your current membership to a Premier, please call any recreation center for assistance.

How do I access my recreation center online account to make a reservation?

[Login HERE](#)

Helpful tips:

- *If you successfully access your account, no further action is needed.*
- *If you don't remember your password, select 'Forgot Your Password' and follow the prompts to gain access.*
- *If you have haven't logged in to the system before, try entering your email as your login name. Then, select the 'Forgot your Password' link from the login screen to retrieve a temporary password via email to access your account.*
- *Do not create a new account. All current memberships are associated with an online account even if you have not activated/accessed the account previously. Consequently, creating a new account would not be associated with your membership and will not allow you to make reservations.*

If you do not have an email on file with us, please call any recreation center for assistance.

When will programming begin again?

Programming is being evaluated and resumed on a program-by-program basis factoring in safety criteria, space availability, staffing levels, and guidance from the state on allowable activities. As

programs are made available again, we will make those announcements on our Facebook page and website.

- Swim lessons resumed at a reduced capacity and with added safety precautions for members only on July 27. Registration is available online.

CHILDCARE/ Out-of-School Time Programs

School Year Childcare Programs – Parks & Recreation Safe Learning Centers (SLC)

We know that securing childcare for the school year is important to many working parents. Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation in partnership with VBCPS is now offering Safe Learning Center programs at a designated number of VB elementary schools while schools are in the virtual learning period. For information on eligibility and registration, visit VBgov.com/childcare.

Early Childhood Programs:

Registration for the school year began on August 12. If you are interested in registering your child for our licensed Early Childhood Programs located at Bow Creek, Kempsville, Princess Anne, and Williams Farm, please download and complete the required forms at VBgov.com/childcare and email them to ostregistration@vbqov.com. Our staff will then contact you with next steps.

SPORTS

Sports Management Office update:

As of July 23, the Sports Management Office has reopened, but staff there will continue to practice physical distancing and follow safety/hygiene guidance set forth by the CDC and VB Occupational Safety and Health Services (OSHS). Road gates will be open Monday - Friday, 8 am – 5 pm.

All visitors are encouraged to preschedule appointments.

- To schedule an appointment for leagues and volunteer ID's call 757-385-0458
- To schedule an appointment for athletic field or tennis court rentals call 757-385-0478

Should a visitor arrive without a prescheduled appointment, please call the posted phone number for instructions to enter.

Can I host tournaments and/or rent fields at PAAC?

Tournaments at PAAC and City View have been approved to resume as of July 25. Please review the list of updated requirements for use of those fields on vbqov.com/paac.

What is the status of games or practices that were scheduled to take place at park athletic fields and school facilities?

As of August 17, Sports Management has resumed athletic ball diamond field rentals for all park sites and can now allocate fields at VB elementary schools. For rental information, please email paacrentals@vbqov.com.

What is the status of City-run sports leagues?

We will be offering **youth flag football, youth fast pitch softball and adult slow pitch softball** for the fall. We are awaiting approval to offer adult coed sand football at the oceanfront. We will not be offering youth volleyball or youth tackle football. Please visit vbgov.com/sports for more information.

PARKS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

Which parks and amenities are open at this time?

Parks and all park amenities are now open for use including playgrounds, basketball and volleyball courts, dog parks and skate parks. Under the current guidelines set forth by the state, social distancing of 6-feet is still required and group sizes are limited to 50 or less. Please adhere to posted signage. Park benches, picnic tables, and other equipment are not sanitized so guests are strongly encouraged to exercise caution and should follow CDC guidelines for handwashing, etc. Park operating hours are as posted.

Parks & Recreation event cancellations include:

- *Cherry Blossom Festival*
- *Earth Day and Earth Day 5K/Mile Fun Run (Race participants should have received an email with options for receiving a refund or donating to the Foundation.)*
- *Celebrating Children (partner)*
- *Touch-a-Truck*
- *Woofstock VB – held virtually on Facebook, May 16 at 5 p.m.*
- *Firefighter Combat Challenge (partner)*
- *Seatack Community Day*
- *VB GIGs Concert Series (partner)*
- *Mount Trashmore Summer Carnival*
- *Clean the Bay Day (partner)*
- *Free Fishing Day (partner)*
- *Party at the Pier (both June and August dates)*
- *July 4 Celebration at Mount Trashmore Park (the event at the Oceanfront is also canceled)*
- *Aloha Back to School Bash*
- *Water Lantern Festival*
- *Bow Creek Block Party*
- *Family Fishing Clinic*
- *Santa's Stocking Old Fashioned Craft Bazaar*

What is the status of park shelter rentals?

Shelter rentals are available for groups of 50 or less, in compliance with the current state guidelines. For information on renting a shelter, please visit our [website](#) or call the park rental line at 757-385-PARK (7275).

Can I launch at Lynnhaven Boat Ramp and Beach Facility?

The facility is open for public use. Be aware that we are experiencing an **extremely high volume** of users at this site, so parking is very limited and fills quickly. To limit contact between customers and staff, fee transactions will be contactless and payment by credit/debit card is required at this time. Customers and

visitors should continue to maintain 6-foot social distancing. Beach users must comply with posted COVID-19 beach regulations.

What is the status of the Adopt-a-Program and other volunteer opportunities?

The Adopt-a-Program has resumed. VBPR has a variety of volunteer opportunities available, and those interested should visit [VBgov.com/volunteer](https://vb.gov/volunteer) for information.

Are there any outdoor programs available for registration?

Some outdoor programs including kayak tours and family nite hikes have resumed. Information can be found on our [registration site](#).

YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES OFFICE

Are there any opportunities for youth who were interested in the Summer Youth Employment Program that got canceled?

After having to cancel SYEP, we are now going to be offering a fall youth employment program called VB Work Ready that aims to develop, educate, and prepare Virginia Beach youth for the workforce. For information, please contact Andrea Holloman at SYEP@VBgov.com or 757-335-1387.

MISC

Where can I get the most current information on Parks & Rec closures and cancellations?

When an update on reopening a facility or a new cancellation is announced, it will be posted on the department's [Facebook page](#) and the [website](#). The City is keeping a list of these on the [Coronavirus emergency site](#) as well. If you are on one of our mailing lists, you may also receive an email. To join our email newsletter mailing list, visit [VBgov.com/enews](https://vb.gov/enews).