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Crystal Lake IL 60014

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PARK REPORT

Vol 4 Summer 2020

*****ECRWSS*****

Residential Customer

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue Crystal Lake, IL 60014
TEL: 815.459.0680 FAX: 815.477.5005

SUMMER 2020 HOURS*

(AS OF 6-8-20)

M-F 8:30 AM - 12 PM
DRIVE THRU OPEN FOR OFFICE SERVICES

24 HOUR DROP BOX AVAILABLE IN DRIVE THRU LANE

*SUBJECT TO CHANGE - CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES

OFFICE SERVICES

BOAT GATE KEY CARD
FISHING KEYS
HOUND TOWN DOG PARK KEY CARD
PROGRAM REGISTRATION

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DEBBIE GALLAGHER • MICHELE HARTWIG
SHAWN ZIMMERMAN • TOM AQUILINA • CATHY CAGLE
CAROLINE BACHOUR-CHEMALY • JASON HEISLER



A MESSAGE FROM JASON HERBSTER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In mid-March 2020, the Crystal Lake Park District along with park districts across the state, local businesses and organizations faced the challenges of sudden closures of facilities and cancellations of events and programs due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

As an organization, staff came together to formulate a plan to keep our system of 43 parks and natural areas open and maintained so that residents could continue to experience the benefits of outdoor recreation during this stressful time. Our dance, athletics and art instructors offered virtual program experiences and staff engaged with residents in virtual contests and scavenger hunts throughout the parks. In addition, leadership made difficult decisions to make temporary adjustments to staffing, spending restrictions were implemented for the Fiscal Year ending on April 30 and changes to our 2020-2021 budget were proposed to the Board of Commissioners.

Illinois moved into Phase 3 of the Restore Illinois plan on May 29, 2020. With Phase 3, the Crystal Lake Park District was allowed to open more areas of the district and ease restrictions in others. Facilities that were allowed to reopen

at some point in Phase 3 included: The Racket Club, Lippold Family Golf Center, Main Beach boat rentals, batting cages, Lippold Park Skate Park, tennis/pickleball courts, Lippold Park Disc Golf Course and Hound Town Dog Park. Public access to all parks, open areas, trails and fishing areas remained open during all Phases of Restore Illinois thus far. Unfortunately, there are still areas that must remain closed at this time such as the beaches, splash pads, indoor recreation and playgrounds per the Governor's Executive Order 2020-38.

Throughout Phases 1 and 2, we have been questioned as to the reasoning of certain closures. Each decision that was made was based on review of the Executive Order along with public health and safety factors. Executive Orders are considered law and the Park District must follow these orders.

As we hopefully transition to Phase 4 in the near future, we are busy hiring seasonal staff, implementing safety protocol for both staff and patrons and providing all areas staff training in relation to Covid-19 operations along with our typical comprehensive staff training program. In Phase 4, we hope Main Beach swim area may open in some capacity.

On behalf of the entire Crystal Lake Park District Board of Commissioners and staff, we thank you for your patience, the time you took to reach out with suggestions and concerns and most of all, the appreciation you expressed for parks and trails that we are so very lucky to have in our own backyard.



SUMMER FUN!

SUMMER DAY CAMP

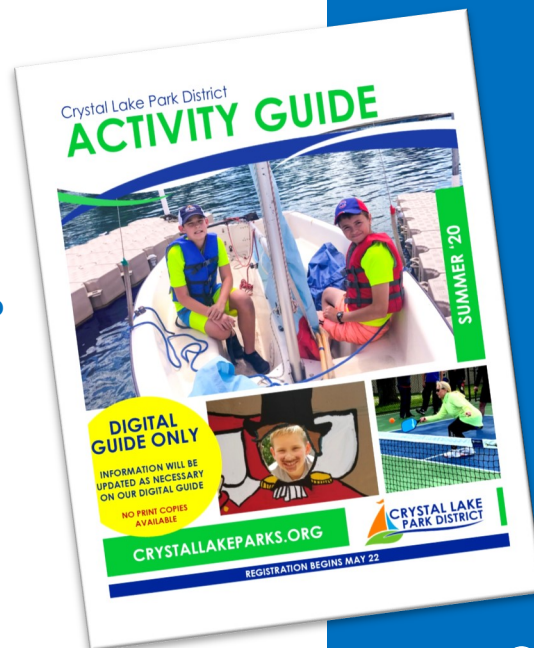
MON-FRI 9 AM-3:30 PM

BEGINS JULY 6

SINGLE WEEK SESSIONS

LIMITED SPOTS!

REGISTER TODAY AT
CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG



ART & COOKING
STEM CLASSES
YOUTH SPORTS
NATURE PROGRAMS
TENNIS LESSONS
PICKLEBALL
BOAT RENTALS
FACILITY RENTALS
BEACH FUN!
MINI-GOLF

REGISTRATION OPEN!

CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG

NOW AVAILABLE! TOUCHLESS PAY



Tap to Pay and NFC payment methods
now accepted at these locations:

Administration Building
Nature Center
Racket Club
Main Beach

FACILITY OPENINGS

Open	Parks and Trails & Fishing Ponds
Open	Outdoor Tennis & Pickleball Courts
Open	Lippold Disc Golf Course
Open	Lippold Park Skate Park
Open	Lippold Park Batting Cages
Open	Racket Club
Open	Main Beach Boat Rentals

Restore Illinois Phase 3 allowed for more services to be open:

June 15	Lippold Family Golf Center
June 15	Hound Town Dog Park

NOT OPEN AS OF PUBLISH DATE: Colonel Palmer House, Nature Center, Main & West Beach, Grand Oaks Senior Center, Splash Pads, basketball courts and playgrounds

Due to the uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Summer 2020 Activity Guide is available only on our website. No print copies will be distributed. A digital guide allows the content to be updated at any time and is efficient and the best use of the resources available.



BEACH OPERATIONS

Public beaches are currently closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While we await further direction from the County and State Health Departments, we hope to be able to open beaches in some capacity in Phase 4. If we open, beach operations will look different from past summers.

In addition to gaining approval to open from the health departments, we will need to make sure we are able to properly staff the beaches. Prior to the COVID-19 shutdown, seasonal staff was hired for beach operations and we are currently reconnecting with them to evaluate availability. Once staff is in place, extensive training will be conducted prior to the start of beach season.

Thank you for your patience during this continually changing and challenging time.



Boat & Board Rentals Available at Main Daily 10 am-6 pm

Online advance reservations required at crystallakeparks.org



ASBURY PARK

The Asbury Park playground was scheduled for replacement and the project is almost complete. The previous playground was over 20 years old and exceeded its life expectancy. A neighborhood planning and input meeting was held to discuss playground amenities. Community members of all ages requested the addition of a walking path around the park and a fabric sail to provide shade for the playground (not pictured.)

The project should be complete by the end of June if extended dry weather prevails. The playground will remain closed until the Governor's Executive Order allows for playgrounds to be reopened.



The old playground was removed by Kids Around the World, a non-profit organization that salvages playgrounds from the U.S. and erects them throughout the world. The Asbury playground will soon have a new home in a disadvantaged community in El Salvador.

LAKE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

This past spring, a Lake Advisory Committee (LAC) was formed to gather and research topics of interest or concern from the community regarding Crystal Lake.

Members include people that live on the lake as well as others in the community that have an interest in the well-being of the lake. The LAC does not have decision making authority but will research lake-related topics and develop possible resolutions to bring forward to the City of Crystal Lake, Village of Lakewood or Crystal Lake Park District for possible action.

If you have a concern or topic regarding Crystal Lake, you can forward it to the LAC at lakeadvisorycommittee@gmail.com.



Lake Advisory Committee Meeting, Jan 2020

WATERCRAFT LAUNCH & FISHING KEYS

Park District Residents Only



**PURCHASE BOAT & FISHING KEYS
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING DRIVE THRU WINDOW
MON-FRI 8:30 AM-12 PM**

BOAT GATE KEY CARD

All watercraft must enter through the Main or West Beach boat launch gate. Boat gate key cards are not to be used for beach access. To purchase a key card, you must provide a current Illinois Driver's License and Illinois Watercraft Registration.

Fee: \$80 / Senior 60 & Up: \$40

OTHER WATERCRAFT

In order to place your watercraft (i.e. jet skis, kayaks, stand up paddleboard, inflatables, etc.) on Crystal Lake, from either a public or private launch site, the following criteria must be met:

- You must be a resident of the Crystal Lake Park District.
- The watercraft's registration must reflect the resident's name.
- In order to launch onto Crystal Lake via the Main or West Beach boat launches, please follow the guidelines above. **NOTE:** launch of any watercraft via Kamijima Park is prohibited.
- Lake Usage Decal should be purchased at the Crystal Lake City Hall.

WALK-IN FISHING KEY

The Park District offers gate keys to residents who want to fish at Main or West Beach before they open (Main opens at 9 am and West Park opens at 10 am.) Keys allow for entrance through the park's special walk-in gates. Watercraft and boats of any size are NOT allowed through the walk-in gates. All watercraft must enter through the boat launch gate.

Fishing is not allowed on boat launch piers, swim lesson piers or in swimming areas. Must show proof of residency to purchase key.

Fee: \$30

BRING BACK 2019 KEYS AND RECEIVE A \$5 DISCOUNT

POP UP FUN!

BE A
PARK EXPLORER!

Nature Center staff will be popping up in local parks exploring and educating!



FOLLOW THE PARK DISTRICT ON INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK!

PARK FOUNDATION



After a long hiatus, the Crystal Lake Park Foundation is looking to become active again to raise funds for park projects throughout the community. Funds would go toward new amenities like a ball hockey rink and camp and program scholarships.

For the foundation to be successful, a committed volunteer leadership team and foundation members willing to work hard are essential. Projects small and large can be goals of the Park Foundation and funds can be raised in a number of different and fun ways.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Crystal Lake Park Foundation, please contact Jason Herbster at jherbster@crystallakeparks.org.



Booking beautiful views for your special occasion

CONTACT LAUREN AT LTHIBODEAU@CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG