

Burr Ridge Park District

COVID-19 Safety Protocols & Physical Distancing for Recreation Programs

The Park District continues to monitor any changes to State guidelines and will make adjustments to the following protocols when the guidelines change. The following protocols are the safety standards that are CURRENTLY being implemented in all District programs.

Health Safety

All program attendees are responsible for taking their own temperatures at home and reviewing a COVID check list each day before attending a program. For the majority of District programs, staff will ask the participant, upon arrival, if they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. For certain programs involving younger participants, caretakers will be advised of drop off and pick up procedures prior to the start of the program. If the participant has an elevated temperature or any of the other listed COVID-19 symptoms, they should not attend and take appropriate medical actions.

Any participant who has had close contact with any person who is diagnosed with COVID-19 should quarantine and is not eligible to continue or start the program. Any participant diagnosed with COVID-19 is in quarantine. Please alert the Park District if these situations occur so that other participants can assess appropriate resources for their family and follow all official medical protocol.

It is extremely important that the Park District has more than one emergency contact person on file for each participant and it would be extremely helpful if one of those contacts is within 15 minutes of the Park District for emergency pickup if necessary. The Park District will have a separate room, fully enclosed, available to isolate from others anyone who exhibits COVID like symptoms during hours of operation until they are picked up.

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Physical Distancing

All program groups will not exceed 30 participants. Both indoor and outdoor activities which allow the Park District to maintain 6 feet of physical distancing between participants will be emphasized. Certain activities and athletic games, almost exclusively occurring outdoors, may have participants passing through the 6 foot zones of others quickly in the flow of play. Other programs may involve activities that maintain 6 feet of distance between participants for virtually the entire session. The Park District will offer as many different fun activities that are able to be offered in a safe manner that is compliant with guidelines.

Each group of 30 or less participants will have an instructor/supervisor assigned to it and either a second instructor or floater employee whom assists two different groups of 30 that are separated, when indoors, at all times by at least 30-feet or the wall of a room but are otherwise in proximity to each other. Floaters will disinfect and sanitize hands prior to and immediately after moving from one group to the other.

Arrivals, departures and group movement around the campus will be closely controlled to modify the flow of individuals in a manner that minimizes 6 foot distancing issues.

Personal Protective Equipment

Participants and staff in all programs, both indoor and outdoor, will be required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth and fits snugly to the sides of the face. When appropriate, for outdoor programs only, the Park District will seek to integrate brief respite periods where participants will be able to remove their face masks temporarily. During these times, 6 foot distancing between all participants will be maintained. Participants will furnish their own clean cloth/equivalent mask on a daily basis. Participants should test their masks at home to experience breathing through them in order to determine tolerance levels.

Violation of the Rules

In the current COVID-19 environment, it is extremely important for all safety protocol and social distancing rules to be followed. As such, there will be zero tolerance policy regarding violations of our rules. Participants must be able to wear and tolerate their mask. They must follow the rules of social distancing. The District will not be able to issue warnings. Any spitting, licking, hitting, biting, running away, needing bathroom assistance or inability to follow the rules will result in an immediate dismissal from the program with mandatory parental pick-up the day of the occurrence.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

Groups of 30 will not mix, interact, or share supplies/equipment on the same day. There will be ample supplies of hand sanitizer with mandatory frequent applications. The sharing of toys, game pieces, etc. within the group will be minimized. When it does occur, shared items will be sanitized and disinfected at the end of the camp session. Participants will have the option to wear protective gloves provided by the District. In addition to nightly cleaning and disinfecting of all indoor surfaces accessible to participants, common areas and multiple touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected every 2 hours during program hours. A separate unisex lavatory will be provided for each group of 30. Participants will be required to sanitize hands both prior to and after their restroom trip under staff supervision and lavatories will be disinfected after each group usage.

Public Access

During programs, the community center will not be open to the general public and entry doors will remain locked from the outside. Rooms in the Community Center are not currently being rented to outside groups for parties and gatherings. Therefore, no persons other than participants, assigned staff or essential contractors will be in the 15,000 square foot facility for the duration of the program schedule. Any delivery persons, contractors or approved visitors allowed entry into the community center will be received in the front lobby and remain well outside of any physical distancing/personal protection priority related to program attendees, for the duration of the visit.

Enrollment in all programs is coordinated in advance. There will be no walk-in or part-time participants at any point within the program.

Other Facilities

For the programs held at facilities other than Park District property, all safety and distancing protocol discussed in this publication extends to these facilities also. Should you experience breaches of our protocol at these facilities please contact us immediately.

Air Quality In The Burr Ridge Community Center

A top recommendation from many governmental agencies and scientific communities for helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is for indoor building managers to do everything possible to improve the quality and circulation of air within their indoor facilities. Our air quality plan is an important part of our COVID-19 safety protocols.

Fresh Air Intake – In addition to intakes via the HVAC system, each programming room has operable windows and outside access doors. All room leaders will be encouraged to open windows/doors periodically to allow fresh air in. If we have to pay a little more for utilities, so be it.

Circulation of Air Within BRCC – There already exists a noticeable, favorable flow of air from east to west within the building. High ceiling double fans in the lobby keep the vaulted ceiling space circulating. Roof top units (RTU) are programmed for the continuous running of room fans, regardless of their climate control status. Internal doors are also being left open more during occupancy to keep the air moving.

HVAC Filtration – Filters for each of the seven RTU's have been upgraded to the highest density level allowed by manufacturers recommendations to remove pathogens and particles of a smaller size. The system does not allow the density necessary to filter a virus, but nevertheless a denser filter will positively impact air quality.

Bi-Polar Ionization – Ionizers have been installed on the seven RTU's servicing the building. Air recirculated within the building passes through an ionization process prior to entering the individual RTU, proceeds through the filters and then re-circulates back into the building as heated or cooled, ionized air. The process breaks down pathogens, allergens and other particles. For viruses, including COVID-19, hydrogen molecules are eliminated, removing a virus' energy source. Controlled lab results suggest a high rate of success in killing COVID-19. Our 15,000 square foot BRCC is significantly different than a small, environmentally controlled box. But, the technology is not new, it is proven to work and it becomes another important component of our air quality goals.

None of these air quality initiatives can guarantee that COVID-19 will not be transmitted from occupant to occupant. However, as we continue to control and reduce the number of people in the building (particularly at the same time) and follow our distancing and masking protocol, our staff and participants will hopefully feel comfortable that every step possible is being taken to provide responsible, safe and fun recreational programming.