May 22, 2020-coronavirus update-(Cumberland County in Yellow Phase)

Carlisle Borough, along with Carlisle Parks and Recreation, is closely monitoring the ongoing Covid-19 situation in order to support and manage the risk to Borough residents and users of our parks, facilities and recreation programs. Carlisle Parks and Recreation has been closely following Governor Wolf’s Covid-19 Red/Yellow/Green plan regarding reopening as the coronavirus continues to affect our local community.

Below is an update on the status of phased timing for reopening Carlisle Parks and Recreation facilities and programs. The reopening will be dependent on the color-coded phase currently in place for Cumberland County. There may be additional time needed to prepare the opening of facilities after color-coded transitions are announced. Please note this is a fluid document due to the ever-changing Covid-19 health crisis and corresponding guidelines. Please check back regularly for updates.

Carlisle Community Pool: The pool will not be open on Memorial Day weekend. Per recommendations from the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society’s Reopening Guidelines, pools may not operate in the yellow phase. The Carlisle Community Pool will not open for the season unless the County is in the “green” phase by June 8 given the time it takes to prepare the pool, and hiring of trained, certified lifeguards. Anyone who has purchased a 2020 pool membership may request a refund through the Parks and Recreation Department at 717-242-3318 or parksandrec@carlislepa.org. Should the pool open in the green phase by June 8, memberships will be pro-rated.

Spray Pools: The spray pools at LeTort, Biddle Mission and Memorial Parks will not open in the red or yellow phases. The current Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendation advises park users not to use spray pools due to overcrowding, frequently touched equipment, and challenges to keep surfaces clean and disinfected. CDC recommends water park features such as spray pools remain closed until there is no widespread community transmission of the virus. Additional information on Summer 2020 spray pool operations will be forthcoming.

Parks & Trails: Per the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society’s Reopening Guidelines, Borough parks and trails are open in the red, yellow and green phases. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet must be practiced while in parks and on trails. Certain amenities and areas within each park will have phased openings. See the list below for an update.

Pavilions & Restrooms: Drop-in use of pavilions during the red phase will continue through the yellow phase. In the yellow phase, families and small groups of 25 or less may use the pavilions. Reservations are not available under the red or yellow phases, so pavilion use is not guaranteed. Restrooms are not open in the red or yellow phases.

Reservations for pavilions will be accepted in the green phase, but with limited capacities. Parks and Recreation will provide additional guidance for pavilion reservations as information becomes available. In the green phase, restrooms will be open for park pavilion rentals.

Please be considerate and remove all trash or litter generated while using public pavilions and parks.
Tennis/Pickleball Courts: Tennis and pickleball courts will open in the yellow phase. Per CDC Guidelines, players and spectators must maintain 6 feet of physical distancing. Large gatherings of 25 or more are prohibited.

Basketball Courts and Pads: Basketball courts and pads will be available for use in the yellow phase. Per CDC guidelines, there is a ‘no contact rule’. Basketball hoops are only available for individual play, no game playing allowed. Players and spectators must maintain 6 feet of physical distancing. No more than 10 people per basketball court; 5 per half court and 4 people per basketball pad. Large gatherings of 25 or more is prohibited.

Drinking Fountains: For the safety of our residents, water fountains in all parks will remain closed until green status. Families visiting the parks should bring their own water.

Multi-Purpose & Athletic Fields: Sports and multi-purpose fields will open in the yellow phase for drop-in use for families and small groups of 25 or less. No organized youth or adult sport groups or leagues will be scheduled during this phase. Reservations and scheduling of leagues will be accepted in the green phase. More guidance will be provided as information becomes available.

Playgrounds: All playgrounds are closed in the red and yellow phases. The current CDC recommendation is that park users continue not to use playgrounds and the playgrounds should remain closed until there is no widespread community transition of the virus. Look for future announcements on re-opening of playgrounds.

Community Gardens: In the yellow phase, garden plots at Heberlig-Palmer Park will be open as long as physical distancing is practiced. No sharing of tools.

Recreation Programs: In the red and yellow phases, most recreation programs are postponed or cancelled in order to follow the Governor’s Stay at Home Order and Process to Reopen Pennsylvania. Recreation programs may begin dependent on ability to modify program content, i.e. physical distancing and class size. Please refer to https://www.carlislepa.org/parks___recreation/recreation_programs.php for more information or click https://apm.activecommunities.com/carlislerec to register for programs.

Summer Day Camp: Weeks 1-4 (June 1-June 26) have been cancelled. A decision on weeks 5-12, (June 29-August 21) will be forthcoming. Parks and Recreation will make our best effort to provide this service. Appropriate resources and ability to adhere to CDC and Department of Health guidelines will be top considerations in determining whether the program can be operated safely. If your child is currently registered, and you would like a refund, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at 717-243-3318.

Memorial Park Playground: Weeks 1-4 (June 1-June 26) have been cancelled. A decision on weeks 5-8, (June 29-July 24) will be forthcoming. Parks and Recreation will make our best effort to provide this service. Appropriate resources and ability to adhere to CDC and Department of Health guidelines will be top considerations in determining whether the program can be operated safely. If your child is currently registered, and you would like a refund, please contact the Parks and Recreation office at 717-243-3318.

Summer Artist Series: Due to requirements of physical distancing and restrictions on large gatherings, performances will be pre-recorded and available virtually while in the yellow phase. Please check back for details.
**Stuart Community Center:** The Community Center is closed to the public in the red phase. The opening of the Community Center in the yellow or green phase is still under review, including gymnasium and multi-purpose room rentals. Look for additional updates after June 4.

**Shaffer Cabin:** Reservations will be accepted in the green phase, but with limited capacities. Parks and Recreation will provide additional guidance for cabin reservations as things continue to unfold.

*Carlisle Parks and Recreation’s mission during this crisis is to continue to provide quality recreation experiences for all to enjoy in a safe and healthy environment. We will continue to follow state and local guidelines in the wake of Covid-19.*