

News From The City of Harlingen



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Harlingen to Reopen City Park Playgrounds

Harlingen, Texas– The City of Harlingen will reopen the playgrounds at all City parks on March 12, 2021. The playgrounds were closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

For the safety of playground users, the City of Harlingen is adding safety measures to mitigate or reduce the spread of COVID-19. The guidelines include CDC and playground experts' recommendations for limiting capacity on playgrounds, supporting physical distancing, cleaning surfaces, wearing face coverings, utilizing properly trained staff, and educating the community about the reopening guidelines.

The reopening plan includes disinfecting the playground equipment at 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. The playgrounds will be closed for 15 minutes while staff disinfects the area including the benches and fencing. Additionally, depending on size, each playground will have an occupancy limit to allow for social distancing.

The playground temporary guidelines include:

- Social distancing and avoiding crowded parks.
- Do not visit parks if you are sick, tested positive for COVID-19, were recently exposed to COVID-19, or just don't feel well.
- Help children follow guidelines.
- Adults or caregivers are required to monitor their children.
- No groups larger than 10 people will be allowed except for families or people living in the same household.
- Use of face coverings or masks required except for children under the age of two.
- No food or drinks allowed in the playground area.
- Visits should be limited to 30 minutes when others are in the playground.

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These guidelines will be posted at each playground including the occupancy capacity to ensure social distancing protocols.

Parks staff will provide hand washing or sanitizing resources for playground users and parents are encouraged to bring their sanitizer for use during and after using the playground equipment.

The City of Harlingen urges the community to continue following the 3 W's— wear a mask, watch your distance, and wash your hands.

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