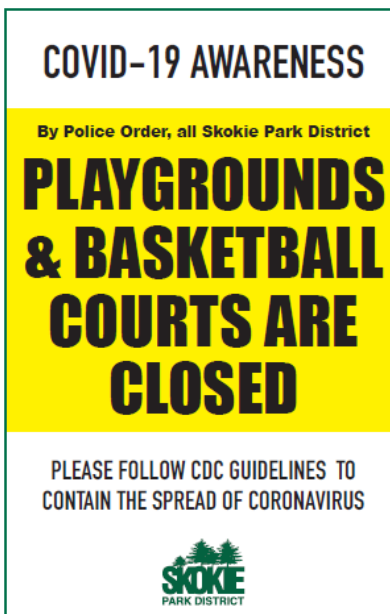


Skokie Parks COVID-19 FAQs

On March 20, 2020, Illinois Governor Pritzker issued Executive Order 2020-10 ([“stay-at-home” order](#)) requiring all Illinoisans to stay in their homes to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. The order took effect Saturday, March 21, 2020 at 5pm CST and the order is currently set to last through the end of Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

The order specifically states that individuals may leave their residence to engage in outdoor activity such as walking, hiking, running, or biking and may go to public parks and open outdoor recreation areas if they comply with the Social Distancing Requirements defined in the order as, maintaining at least a six-foot distance from others. However, **playgrounds must be closed**, as they may increase the spread of COVID-19.

Due to this State order, the Skokie Park District will be using these guidelines to determine the essential functions at parks and facilities.



Does the Stay at Home order mean I cannot take my kids to the park?

Village of Skokie playgrounds and outdoor fitness equipment will be closed during the stay-at-home order. Families will still be able to go outside, including to local parks and outdoor spaces that remain open, and take a walk, run, or bike ride but should continue to practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from other people. Playgrounds are closed because they pose a high risk of increasing the transmission of COVID-19.

Can I play basketball, football, soccer etc. with a group of friends/family in the parks?

No. To prevent the spread of COVID-19, do not participate in contact sports. Contact sports are sports that emphasize or require physical contact between players. The Skokie Park District has disabled the goals and nets on all park basketball courts, in order to discourage group play. Group play should not be allowed based on CDC guidance located here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html>

Can I play tennis on the Skokie Park District tennis courts?

Yes. As long as you practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from your tennis partner.

Can I have a gathering of family and/or friends at the park for a playdate or a picnic?

With that in mind, we ask that while visiting Skokie parks, residents and guests please observe Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 guidelines, which include staying at least 6 feet away from others and refraining from gathering in groups of more than ten people. If you are not feeling well, please stay home until you have fully recovered.

Can I walk, jog or bike on the Skokie Valley Trail or North Shore Channel Trail?

Yes. Any building attached to these spaces are closed including public restrooms. Refrain from using trails if you are exhibiting symptoms and maintain safe social distancing while using Skokie parks. While on trails, warn other users of your presence as you pass, and step aside to let others pass.

What about my pet?

You are allowed to walk your dog and seek medical care for your pet should they require it. Be sure to practice social distancing while out on walks, maintaining at least 6 feet from other neighbors and their pets. Pooch Park is closed.

COVID-19: Be Smart. Do Your Part.

If you do go to our parks or trails to exercise, use extreme caution.

Do not participate in team or contact sports.

Respect the Radius: Keep six feet or more between you and others at all times.

Do not touch any surfaces or playground equipment.

We discourage gathering in parks. It is **illegal to gather in groups of ten or more.**