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## NEWS RELEASE

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DATE: August 3, 2020

### **Parks & Recreation Programs, Services and Activities during COVID-19 – Updated 8/12/20**

In our continued effort to protect the collective health and safety of our community, the factual realities of the current pandemic have led to the decision to cancel and/or delay the below programs, services and activities provided by the Port Angeles Parks & Recreation Department. Multiple factors have contributed to this difficult decision, including budgetary restraints and staffing levels during the COVID-19 pandemic. The affected programs, services and activities include:

- The Vern Burton Community Center will be closed for rentals until further notice. This includes all community events. The facility is being utilized for COVID response in support of the County court system.
- All facilities within Lincoln Park are closed until 50 or more people can congregate, per the Governor's Safe Start Washington reopening plan. This includes the Dog Park, The Clubhouse Rental, the Loomis Building Rental, and the Cal Ripken Ballfields.
- The Erickson Skate Park will remain closed until 50 or more people can congregate.
- Volunteer and Civic Field will remain closed until further notice in coordination with the School District.
- The Downtown, Gateway and Shane Park restrooms are currently open. All other public restrooms will remain closed until further notice.
- All open gym activities, including school districts gyms, such as basketball, pickleball, badminton, airplane/drone flying, and volleyball are canceled for the year 2020 due to the COVID related use of the Vern Burton facility and the Governor's phased Safe Start Opening Plan.
- All adult sports sponsored by the City of Port Angeles, including Mens/Womens/Co-Ed Softball, Volleyball, Soccer and Basketball are canceled for the year 2020.
- Winter Youth Basketball tournaments are canceled for the 2020/2021 winter season.
- Ocean View Cemetery burial services are limited to 30 people, per the Governor's Office. At least six feet of physical distancing between households is required.
- City Pier Transient Moorage Floats will not be installed this year.
- The Port Angeles Senior Center will remain closed until additional phases are released by the Governor's office. OlyCAP weekly hot meals continue to be available at the center for pick up Tuesday through Friday, as well as a home delivery option. Please call 360-457-8921 for more information. Additionally, please call 360-457-4554 for information regarding virtual program offerings from the Senior Center.

Port Angeles Parks & Recreation has always taken pride in being a facilitator of recreation in our community by providing safe facilities, open space, parks, and athletic facilities. We will continue this mission moving forward. Although there are no estimated timelines for when Clallam County will advance through phases of re-opening, we continue to encourage everyone to use our parks and open spaces, while following the Governor's social distancing guidelines. The City will continue to work with Clallam County Health Officials and the Port Angeles School District as we look at reopening facilities and programs. Although the Vern Burton Community Center is

closed, we are still available at 360-417-4550 or by email at [jstraits@cityofpa.us](mailto:jstraits@cityofpa.us). We will continue to update our Facebook Page and Website as we update the public. Thank You and stay safe.

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**Provided by:**

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