

Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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SHERWOOD'S PLAYGROUNDS, BASKETBALL COURTS CLOSING

SHERWOOD, Ark. (March 31, 2020) — City of Sherwood Mayor Virginia Young ordered the closing of all City of Sherwood playgrounds and outdoor basketball courts today to further enforce Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson's directives for social distancing. The closure goes into effect Tuesday, March 31, and remains in effect until further notice. Trails and open spaces will remain open at this time. All indoor facilities will remain closed to the public until further notice under the March 19 mayoral directive.

In a press release dated March 30, the National Recreation and Park Association advised its members nationwide to temporarily close to help reduce community spread.

"The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) understands the important value playgrounds and play structures provide to communities across the country, especially for children. But, given the current situation and the guidance from public health officials on physical distancing, limiting in-person social interactions, avoiding spaces where people congregate in close quarters, and the concerns around transmission of the virus being spread through surfaces, we believe that playgrounds and play structures should temporarily close in an effort to reduce community spread," the press release said.

According to the March 26 directive from the Arkansas Secretary of Health, gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited. Furthermore, the directive advised individuals to limit person-to-person contact by maintaining appropriate social distancing of at least six feet to prevent the spread of the virus.

"While we know that outdoor parks are essential for our physical health, we also know that an influx to our playgrounds makes social distancing difficult to maintain. Please help reduce the spread of the virus by practicing social distancing. The trails and open spaces will remain open as long as we all do our part to distance from one another," said Young.

The City of Sherwood will continue to monitor this situation and will implement strategic actions as needed. Please follow @SherwoodAR on Facebook or check the City of Sherwood website for updated information as it becomes available: www.cityofsherwood.net.