

For Immediate Release

Municipality of Brockton COVID-19 Update: Reopening of Municipal Recreational Amenities

Brockton, ON, May 21, 2020 – The Municipality of Brockton continues to remain vigilant in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the numbers of reported COVID-19 cases in Grey and Bruce Counties are declining, residents are reminded to respect physical distancing requirements and avoid gatherings of more than five (5) people.

Reopening of Certain Municipal Recreational Amenities:

On May 19, 2020 the Province announced that Ontario was entering Stage 1 of the Framework for Reopening the Province, permitting the reopening of some outdoor recreational amenities, including outdoor sports facilities and multi-use fields, off-leash dog areas, and outdoor picnic sites, benches and shelters in parks and recreational areas.

As of May 22, 2020 in accordance with the Provincial Framework, the Municipality of Brockton has **reopened the following recreational amenities for walkthrough access provided that physical distancing restrictions are met:**

- Bruce Power Regional Soccer Park
- Cargill Baseball Diamonds
- Cargill Community Centre Park
- Elmwood Baseball Diamonds
- Elmwood Basketball Courts
- Elmwood Parks
- Elmwood Tennis Courts
- Glammis Park
- Walkerton Baseball Diamonds
- Walkerton Basketball Courts
- Walkerton Centennial Park
- Walkerton Central Park (Tot Lot)
- Walkerton Heritage Water Garden
- Walkerton Memory Lane Park
- Walkerton Riverbend Park
- Walkerton Rotary Park
- Walkerton Lobies Park
- Walkerton Lions Westwood Drive Park
- Walkerton Tennis Courts

Residents must **remain two (2) metres or six (6) feet apart** while using these amenities. The Provincial Order **restricting gatherings of more than five (5) people remains in effect**, unless they are members of the same household. Individuals should **wash their hands or use hand sanitizer** to clean their hands before and after using the pavilions, and stay home if ill.

Even though these amenities are reopened, **the play structures located at some of these parks (including the Splash Pad at Centennial Park) remain closed until further notice.** These amenities are **open for walkthrough access only.** **The washrooms and facilities at these locations remain closed at this time.**

Residents are reminded that trails and greenspaces continue to remain open with the same restrictions.

Rules for Ball Diamond, Soccer Field and Basketball Court Users:

- Individuals using ball diamonds, soccer fields or basketball courts are required to physical distance 2 metres with a maximum group size of 5 persons at one time, unless they are members of the same household.
- Avoid or limit touching commonly touched surfaces like sporting equipment
- Individuals should wash or use hand sanitizer to clean your hands and wash your hands before and after play, and stay home if ill
- **The washrooms and facilities at these locations remain closed.**

Rules for Tennis Court Users:

- Doubles play is only permitted if players on each team are from the same household, otherwise single play only.
- Individuals using the tennis courts are required to physical distance 2 metres with a maximum group size of 5 persons at one time, unless they are members of the same household.
- Players must wash their hands with a disinfectant soap and water or use a hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available, before going to the court.
- Players should use their racquet/foot to pick up balls and hit them to their opponent. Using hands to pick up the balls should be avoided.
- If a ball from another court comes to you, players should send it back with a kick or with their racquet.
- Each player should bring their own can of balls with a unique identifying mark (initials, symbol) and ideally from different companies for easy identification. Players should only touch their own tennis balls.
- No physical contact like high five's and handshakes is allowed.
- Players need to remain on the same side of the court at all times.
- Players should no longer sit on benches or use score cards.
- **The washrooms and facilities at these locations are all closed.**

The Parks and Recreation Office, Community Centres, play structures at the parks, and the splash pad remains closed to the public until further notice. The Walkerton Centennial Pool is unfortunately closed for the season.

Further Information:

The Municipality of Brockton will continue to obtain information and updates from the County of Bruce, The Grey Bruce Health Unit, the Province of Ontario and other health agencies and will provide new information to residents when available. The Municipality of Brockton will continue to take all steps necessary to maintain essential services for our residents and local businesses. Please visit [Brockton.ca/COVID19](https://www.brockton.ca/COVID19) for updated information for residents and [Brockton.ca/BusinessRecovery](https://www.brockton.ca/BusinessRecovery) for updated information about businesses, or call the municipal office at 519-881-2223.