RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
235 Promenade Street, Room 425
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

EMERGENCY OPERATION ORDER

No. 20-06

May 15, 2020

Effective date(s): Monday May 18, 2020 until further notice.

Affected facilities: All state parks and certain other facilities as outlined herein

Pursuant to: R.I.G.L. § 42-17.1-2(19) and 250-RICR-100-1, Section 1.22

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management ("RIDEM") finds that the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic continues to poses an imminent peril to the public health, safety, and welfare which justifies limited access to state parks and certain other facilities to the public until further notice ("Affected Facilities"). The list of Affected Facilities and conditions related to the status of the Affected Facilities are set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein. As of the effective date of this Emergency Operation Order, RIDEM bike paths and most RIDEM management areas remain open, and this order does not apply to those facilities.

RIDEM and state and local law enforcement will be patrolling the Affected Facilities and dispersing groups of people found to be in violations of the stated conditions.

This order shall be enforceable under the provisions of 250 RICR-100-1, Section 1.37. In accordance with this section, any person found to have violated this order may be subject to a fine not to exceed $100.00 for each violation, enforceable in the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal.

Given the serious nature of COVID-19, and the imminent peril posed by this pandemic, RIDEM advises that individuals who choose to visit one of RIDEMs recreational areas, should abide by current Executive Orders regarding social/physical distancing, group size and use of cloth face coverings. RIDEM continues to monitor the situation and will issue additional orders as necessary.

Notice of this Emergency Operation Order shall be posted and available for review on the RIDEM website www.ridem.ri.gov.

By Order of the Director:

Janet Coit

Date: May 15, 2020

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Exhibit A

State Parks – Limited Access

The following State Parks are open for limited access and ambulatory and active recreation, subject to compliance with all Executive Orders regarding social/physical distancing, group size, face coverings and COVID-19 precautions. Limited access may include, but is not limited to, limited hours of operation, reduced parking and capacity, unavailability of public restrooms, or limited portable toilets.

- Beavertail State Park, Jamestown
- Black Regiment Monument, Portsmouth
- Brenton Point State Park, Newport
- Burlingame State Park, Charlestown
- Cocumcussoc Park, North Kingstown
- Colt State Park, Bristol
- Fort Adams State Park, Newport
- Fort Wetherill State Park, Jamestown
- Goddard Memorial State Park, Warwick
- Haines Memorial State Park, East Providence
- John H. Chafee Nature Preserve, North Kingstown
- J.L. Curran State Park, Cranston
- Lehigh High Grove, Portsmouth
- Lincoln Woods State Park, Lincoln
- Meshanticut State Park, Cranston
- Pulaski State Park, Glocester
- Purgatory Chasm, Middletown
- Rocky Point, Warwick
- Snake Den State Park, Johnston