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PRESS RELEASE

DCR Opens Spray Decks, Playgrounds, and Fitness Areas to the Public

DCR Opens Spray Decks, Playgrounds, and Fitness Areas to the Public

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

6/16/2020

Department of Conservation & Recreation

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BOSTON — The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announced that it has opened agency-managed **spray decks** (/doc/dcr-managed-spray-decks/download), **playgrounds** (/doc/dcr-managed-playgrounds-0/download), and **fitness areas** (/doc/dcr-managed-fitness-areas-0/download) for public use in accordance with **safety standards** (/doc/safety-standards-for-playgrounds-spray-decks-and-outdoor-fitness-areas/download) issued by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) as part of Phase II of the Baker-Polito Administration's reopening plan. The department will be conducting periodic cleanings of spray decks, playgrounds and fitness areas and has posted signage providing visitors with guidance when using the facilities.

Furthermore, when visiting these facilities and other state park locations, DCR asks the public to adhere to the following guidance:

- Minimize outdoor recreational time to limit potential exposure to COVID-19;
- Stay within solitary or small groups, and avoid gatherings of ten or more people;
- Practice social distancing of at least six feet between individuals;
- Wear a face mask or facial covering when social distancing cannot be practiced;
- Administer healthy personal hygiene, such as handwashing for at least 20 seconds;
- Participate in only non-contact recreational activities;
- Leave a park or facility if large gatherings begin to build; and,

- Stay home if ill, over 70, and/or part of a vulnerable population.

The department also recently **opened** (/news/dcr-reopens-agency-managed-golf-courses) Ponkapoag Golf Course in the Town of Canton and Leo J. Martin Memorial Golf Course in the Town of Weston. In an effort to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the facilities have several new measures in place aiding users with social distancing. Additionally, to inform visitors of COVID-19 impacts on the state parks system, DCR created a Massachusetts State Parks COVID-19 Updates **webpage** (/info-details/massachusetts-state-parks-covid-19-update). Prior to visiting a state parks property, members of the public should review the contents of the webpage.

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dcr
Massachusetts

Department of Conservation & Recreation

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DCR manages state parks and oversees more than 450,000 acres throughout Massachusetts. It protects, promotes, and enhances the state's natural, cultural, and recreational resources.

More (/orgs/department-of-conservation-recreation)

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