



PRESS RELEASE- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

4/24/2020

Updates on Summer Parks Programs and Facilities

The City of Bristol Department of Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services has postponed summer program registration to Wednesday May 27, 2020 (non-resident registration begins Monday June 1, 2020). The preferred method of registration will be online through www.bristolrec.com for individuals with computer access and the ability to pay via credit card. Registration will also be available over the phone at 860-584-6160 (recreation programs) and 860-584-3837 (aquatics programs/memberships) with a credit card. In person registration will be available at the North Entrance of City Hall (111 North Main Street) during 8:30am-5pm on May 27, 28 and 29. After May 29th in person registration will be accepted at the North Entrance by appointment only.

Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu believes, "Bristol families need Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services now more than ever. The City is following federal, state and local guidance for establishing a timeframe to re-open facilities and establish potential modifications needed to offer safe, top notch summer programs and camps."

Superintendent Dr. Joshua Medeiros reports, "We hope to have a clearer picture of what the summer is going to look like over the next few weeks as we hear from officials on new guidelines. Our team has been actively developing contingency plans and new safety protocols for what could be a modified summer. I've been very pleased with our staff's ability to adapt to this difficult situation which has included offering virtual programs, virtual counseling, and the continued maintenance of our passive park areas for families to enjoy while practicing social distancing. Looking ahead to the summer we are poised to respond when it's safe to do so by offering essential community services including our popular swim lessons, art classes, tennis, and Summer FUN Camp, which will now include before and after care hours to accommodate

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families going back to work. We don't have a crystal ball to see what the future holds but we want our park users, pool members, and the thousands of program participants that take advantage of our top notch services every year to know that we are here".

Families in need of financial assistance for summer programming should reach out to their child's school guidance counselor, therapist or other referring agencies. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Youth and Community Services Supervisor Stephen Bynum at 860-314-4690 or stephenbynum@bristolct.gov.

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