



May 19, 2020

Dear Parma Resident,

The City of Parma has spent the past few days reviewing the Governor's order as to allowing various summer activities. We have spent a great many hours determining what restrictions are manageable and what restrictions are not for the city to allow these activities to take place this summer. It was the goal of the city to provide as many of the summer activities to Parma residents as possible.

However, the requirements given by the Governor's office have made various activities impossible and/or impractical to safely administer. With that in mind, we have decided that the City of Parma pools must remain closed this summer because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The main issue is the challenge of practicing safe social distancing at swimming pools. Enforcing social distancing as required by the Governor would be difficult, if not impossible. To require children to remain six feet apart while in the pool is not practical. Additionally, it's not realistic to think that we could enforce the many requirements given by the order as it relates to pools.

We very much know how important and fun our Parma pools are to the residents. We know how disappointed many will be, but the risk of opening the pools and allowing the spread of the virus far outweighs the consequences of not opening.

Although we do not feel that Parma can open the city pools, there are other summer activities which the City of Parma is capable of complying with the Governor's restrictions. We do plan on going forward with the following:

- Youth baseball/softball will begin with a delayed start of June 29 (unfortunately, we must cancel tot t-ball, as well as girls and boys t-ball leagues. We do not believe that the city could comply with the Governor's requirements at this age level.)
- Adult softball will start on May 26 following the Governor's guidelines
- A modified Junior Golf program will begin in mid-June. We are developing protocols to abide by the Governor's guidelines. Further details will follow.
- Youth tennis will tentatively begin with the scheduled second session starting July 6th. The first session is being cancelled so that we can adapt to the Governor's guidelines.

Additionally, the City of Parma regrets that we will have to cancel the following events because of the guidelines to mitigate the spread of COVID-19:

- Parma -Parma Hts. Summer band concerts
- Parma Family movie night
- Parma Pride Program

None of these decisions were easy. It is our hope that we have made the right decision in protecting the residents of Parma, and striking a balance of allowing some activities to go forward this summer. These decisions are made in an effort to allow some form of normalcy and to be safe. Please note that if you prefer your child not participate and have previously registered, call the Recreation Department at 440-885-8144 by 4:30 Monday, May 25th to request a refund.

We look forward to next summer when we can resume all recreational activities.

Stay safe and be well,

Mayor Tim DeGeeter

Mickey Vittardi, Recreation Director