



News for Immediate Release
May 8, 2020

SCRANTON, PA - After careful consideration and discussions with the City Parks and Recreation Department and the Scranton Municipal Recreation Authority regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need for repairs and maintenance at City swimming pools, including Nay Aug Park, being delayed by the State and Federal mandated temporary closures of contractors, we regretfully announce that all City of Scranton swimming pools will remain closed for the 2020 season.

While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has stated that there is no evidence that the virus can be spread through water in pools, City pools draw large crowds and we would not be able to enable safe social distancing. Additionally, Governor Wolf extended the stay-at-home order for Lackawanna County [through June 4](#); under Governor Wolf's reopening plan, gatherings of 25 or more people are prohibited until the final "green" phase.

City of Scranton Parks and Recreation Director Brian Fallon and the Scranton Municipal Recreation Authority encourage residents to visit the City's parks throughout the summer and practice social distancing, including wearing masks, staying off of communal equipment, and not playing team sports. "We have great parks across the City. Though we are unable to open the pools this season we hope residents will take advantage of the parks for other activities like walking, running, and hiking." said Fallon.

While the closures are the result of the impact of COVID-19, these closures will enable the City and the Recreation Authority to make greatly needed repairs and maintenance to protect the public and City employees, and will ensure that future generations will enjoy swimming and safety at all City pools well into the future.

The City is identifying alternative summer activities around which it will be possible to maintain social distance. Please keep updated on these plans by visiting the Mayor of Scranton Facebook page or www.scrantonpa.gov.

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