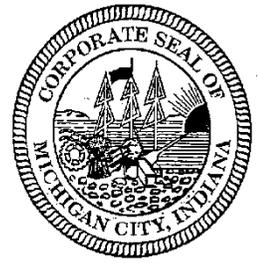




# PRESS RELEASE



OFFICE OF MAYOR DUANE PARRY  
City of Michigan City

## BEACH REOPENING

Effective Friday August 28<sup>th</sup>, Michigan City Mayor Duane Parry has softened his “executive” order. Access to the beaches at Stops 2-13 will be open to swimmers, runners, walkers, and activities.

The reopening of Washington Park is for residents of LaPorte County who possess a valid 2019 or 2020 beach sticker. This is a coordinated effort with Mayor Parry and our Park Department. Enforcement is a shared responsibility of our Police, Fire, Park and residents of our City. We urge everyone to follow our guidelines to ensure the success of the reopening.

### Face Coverings Required in Public

The LaPorte County Health Department with the County Commissioners issued an order effective on July 15, 2020 requiring all persons throughout the County to wear a mask or other facial covering when in public.

A mask or other facial covering must comply with the recommendations of the CDC. The current CDC guidelines recommend wearing a mask or facial covering which snugly covers the face and mouth, whether store-bought or homemade, which is secured with ties or ear loops, include multiple layers of fabric, allow for breathing without restriction, and which is able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or losing shape.

- **Face coverings are not required when persons are swimming or engaged in other activities which may cause the facial covering to become wet, or are engaged in strenuous activity, such as running or jogging.**

### Washington Park Hours

Washington Park and the beach will be open 7 days a week from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, with NO Lifeguards on duty.

## Below are some of the key guidelines for beachgoers:

### Beach Rules

- No groups of more than 10 people will be permitted
- Facial coverings must be worn at all times when in public
  - Facial coverings are not required for:
    - Children under 3-years old
    - Persons who have trouble breathing due to a chronic pre-existing condition; persons who are not able to remove face coverings without assistance or on their own
    - Persons involved in strenuous activity
    - While in the lake
  - Facial coverings must be worn in restrooms
  - Facial coverings that are wet are ineffective (beachgoers should bring an additional clean and dry face covering to replace a face covering that becomes wet or dirty)
  - Social distancing is not required for family members who reside together, up to a maximum of 10 people
  - Beachfront restrooms
    - Access to restrooms is limited to maintain 6 feet of separation between individuals
    - Restrooms will be cleaned and disinfected every 2 to 3 hours

### Activities Allowed

Beach activities that are permitted, with facial covering or six feet of distance between people of different households include:

- Walking
- Swimming
- Sunbathing
- Sitting and eating among families of the same household

### Activities Not Permitted

- No groups larger than 10 persons can congregate
- No shared equipment among people from different households
- No canopies/tents
- No organized or group activities involving groups of 2 or more
- No special events, including group picnics
- No dogs or pets on the beach
- No fishing on the beach
- No littering
- No grilling
- **NO FIRES**

As we continue with the fluid changing of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the opening, closing, or rules may alter as needed.

Let's remember it is "OUR BEACH" Let us all work together as a community to keep our Lakefront open and respect the rules in place.