



# City of Framingham

## *Division of*

### Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs

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## Memorandum

**From:** James Snyder, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs  
**Date:** June 10, 2020  
**Subject:** Phase II Skate Park Reopening Guidelines

**Reference:** Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
**Date:** June 4, 2020  
**Subject:** Safety and Reopening Standards for Parks, Open Space, and Outdoor Education Programs – Phase II <https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-parks-open-space-and-outdoor-education-programs-phase-ii/download>

**Website:** <https://www.framinghamma.gov/951/Parks-Recreation-Cultural-Affairs>

**Email:** [parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov](mailto:parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov)

The following guidelines apply to Parks, Open Space, and Outdoor Education Programs during Phase II of Framingham's Reopening.

All visitors to parks and open space, and managers associated with properties or activities herein, should abide by the specific guidelines outlined. Property-specific guidelines should be posted at entrance points to areas and on relevant social media/websites. Guidelines provided herein should apply to all parks, reservations and open spaces unless otherwise specified.

This guidance should apply until amended or rescinded. Any questions regarding this guidance can be sent to [parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov](mailto:parks.recreation@framinghamma.gov)

### **Framingham Orders and Guidelines**

**Face Coverings and Masks:** All visitors to parks and open spaces, as well as those participating in outdoor education programs should comply with *COVID-19 Order 31: Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible*. The order requires any person over the age of 2, whether indoors or outdoors, to wear a face covering or mask when they cannot maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others, unless they have a medical condition preventing them from doing so. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>

**Group Size:** No groups larger than 10 are allowed to gather indoors. The Order does not apply to public gatherings of more than 10 people in an unenclosed, outdoor space such as a park, athletic field, or parking lot, while permissible this type of gathering is not advised; provided, that individuals must follow social distancing protocols by remaining at least six feet apart.

**Social Distancing:**

Visitors should always practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from others and adhering to all site-specific rules, regulations, and posted signage regarding permitted uses.

**Self-Care:**

After visiting public spaces, visitors should wash their hands and/or use hand sanitizer.

**Athletic Fields, Courts, and Other Playing Surfaces (Non-Organized/Permitted Use)**

All outdoor athletic fields, courts, and other playing surfaces (basketball, tennis, baseball, football, soccer, skate parks, etc.) can be utilized by the public during Phase II for general recreation. Athletic fields, courts, and other playing surfaces at parks, reservations and open space managed by municipalities or other organizations for public use is available at the discretion of the city or town it is in and/or the managing organization. User activities should be consistent with social distancing and group size guidelines. Persons seeking to organize youth or adult sport activities should review and follow EEA's *Workplace Safety and Reopening Standards for Businesses and Other Entities Providing Outdoor Adult Sports, Supervised Adult Youth Sports Leagues, Summer Sports Camps* guidance. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/outdoor-adult-sports-supervised-youth-sports-leagues-summer-sports-camps/download>

**Athletic Fields, Courts, and Other Playing Surfaces Guidelines:**

- Users should sanitize hands before and after play and not share equipment.
- Users waiting to utilize a section or area of the field should wait outside the field of play until previous users have vacated to ensure proper social distancing.
- Scrimmages, organized games and tournaments are not allowed for contact sports in Phase II, and activities must be limited to no-contact drills and training exercises. Contact sports are those where ordinary play puts players into contact or close proximity to one another, and include, without limitation, basketball, football, baseball, soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse.
- Games are permitted during Phase II only for no-contact sports where ordinary play allows for social distancing (e.g., tennis and other racquet sports), but inter-team games or tournaments are not allowed.
- Individuals should not congregate outside the field of play to avoid overcrowding

**Framingham Skate Park Guidelines:**

- City Parks will be open daily from dawn to dusk.
- Please use proper hand hygiene and not share equipment and clean and wipe down equipment including water bottles.
- When engaged in skating, users should avoid touching other users' equipment in separate areas.
- Users waiting to utilize a section of the skate park should wait outside until previous users have vacated the facility to ensure proper social distancing and prevent accidental contact of other users' equipment.
- Users should not engage in tournaments.

**Trash Disposal General Guidelines:**

- Visitors of public parks, reservations, and open spaces should expect limited or no trash disposal receptacles.
- When visiting public properties without trash receptacles, visitors should adhere to a strict "carry in, carry out" policy and take waste with them.
- Where trash receptacles are available for normal use, park managers should, where feasible, provide no touch, lidless trashcans.