

What You Need to Know as Alpharetta Plans a Phased Reopening of City Parks, facilities, Programs and Services

If you have any further questions about the information outlined below, please email jdrinkard@alpharetta.ga.us.

What Is It?

The City of Alpharetta is implementing a phased plan for restoring its operations and will begin reopening some public facilities this Friday, May 15. The City closed most of its facilities and has had most non-essential employees working remotely since March 15 as it responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

What does “phased plan” mean?

The City has created a phased plan that establishes benchmarks to be met in order to return employees to the workplace, open specific facilities, and restart some activities and programs. The benchmarks ensure that we move through each phase of the plan only when we can ensure the safety of the public and our employees.

How were the benchmarks developed?

The benchmarks were developed based upon current guidance from the CDC and other public health agencies and include items such as the ability to ensure social distancing, the availability of critical cleaning supplies and sanitizers, and having a variety of safety protocols in place.

When will organized athletic programs resume?

Beginning May 15, organized youth athletic programs will be allowed to hold tryouts and/or skill drills on athletic fields upon submitting a COVID-19 plan and receiving a permit from the City. The use of ball fields and athletic facilities for organized groups of 10 persons or more will require a permit from the City; the permit holder will be required to sign a waiver acknowledging each participant’s risk for exposure to COVID-19. Participants are also required to practice, as much as possible, social distancing and follow other CDC guidelines. To obtain a permit email athleticprograms@alpharetta.ga.us

Why are the ball fields and athletic facilities opening before the other facilities?

The City decided to open the ball fields and other athletic facilities with our organized programs first because we are better able to put safety protocols in place and can better ensure social distancing and other guidelines are being followed by participants.

When will Alpharetta City Hall open?

Beginning on Monday, May 18 the lobbies of City Hall and the Department of Public Safety will reopen to the public. This will include the permit windows in the Department of Community Development and the City Hall cashiers window.

What measures will be put into place to protect the people who do business and work inside these buildings?

To protect the public and City employees, temporary plexiglass shields have been installed in City Hall and the Department of Public Safety, and the temperatures of employees and the public will be taken using no-contact thermometers when they enter the facilities. Anyone registering a temperature of 100.4 or greater will not be allowed to remain in the building.

Will City Council meetings ever be “in-person” again?

Beginning May 18, City Council Meetings will return to the Council dais in City Hall. The public will also be able to physically attend the meeting but will also be able to participate virtually.

When will the other facilities, such as the Basketball Courts / Arts Center / Adult Activity Center open?

If the State determines that Georgia has fulfilled the Stage 2 criteria defined in the Federal Opening Up America Again Plan, the City of Alpharetta will continue opening public facilities as follows:

Tuesday, May 26 - The Alpharetta Community Center, Alpharetta Arts Center, and Wills Park Recreation Center would open.

Monday, June 1- The park playgrounds, picnic pavilions (no reservations, small groups only), athletic fields for organized use by youth organizations and/or rentals upon submission of a proper COVID-19 plan and issuance of a permit by the City, and rental use of the Wills Park Equestrian Center upon submission of a proper COVID-19 plan and issuance of a permit by the City would open.

Some day and summer camp programs may open under modified conditions as early as June 1, if the State has satisfied the Phase 2 gating criteria defined in the Federal plan and the City feels confident that appropriate safety protocols are in place. Additional City of Alpharetta recreation facilities and programs, including the Alpharetta History Museum, could open later in the month if those requirements are met.

Why aren't the playgrounds open yet?

The City has created a phased plan that establishes benchmarks to be met in order to open specific facilities such as playgrounds. The benchmarks ensure that we move

through each phase of the plan only when we can ensure the safety of the public and our employees.

Can I go to the park and let my kids run around?

YES. Outdoor activity is allowed, as long as you and your children keep a minimum of 6' distance from other people.

Can I take a picnic to the park with my family?

YES. Outdoor activity is allowed, as long as you keep a minimum of 6' distance from other people.

Can I play tennis at the park or in my community?

YES. The tennis and pickleball courts at the parks will be open, beginning Friday, May 15, but you must maintain a safe physical distance of at least 6' between all persons. Courts may be reserved online at <https://apm.activecommunities.com/alpharetta>

Can I play disc golf at Wills Park?

YES. All 18 holes of the disc golf course are open, but you must maintain a safe physical distance of at least 6' between all persons.

Can I walk/bike/run/hike on the Greenway/trails?

YES. You may use the Greenway and trails, but you must maintain a safe physical distance of at least 6' between all persons. All restroom facilities at the trail heads are now open.

When will the dog parks be opened?

The Waggy World Dog Park at Wills Park is open, as of Friday, May 15.

Can I access my garden plot within the community garden?

Community garden members are allowed to tend their garden plot, while maintaining a safe physical distance of at least 6' between all persons. All community garden events and classes are cancelled at this time.

What about parking lots; are they closed or open?

Parking lots are open.

What about outdoor restrooms within the parks; are they closed or open?

Outdoor restroom facilities within the Alpharetta parks are now open. They are monitored and maintained daily, but will not be cleaned after each use.

What do I do if I feel sick or have symptoms of COVID-19?

If you are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or believe that you may have contracted the virus, call your physician or the hospital for instructions.

All residents of the City of Alpharetta showing symptoms recognized by the CDC as indicators for COVID-19 shall refrain from entering public buildings, restaurants, shops, public transportation facilities, and all other public areas, and are encouraged to seek medical attention, follow the directions of their Primary Care Physician, and remain quarantined in their residence until given the clearance to return to public interaction.

All residents of the City of Alpharetta that have tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected to be infected with COVID-19 should isolate themselves at home and follow all requirements of the Department of Public Health Order.

What if a person who I recently spent time with just tested positive for COVID-19?

All residents of the City of Alpharetta that have been in close contact with a person known or suspected to be infected with COVID-19 should quarantine themselves at home and follow all other requirements of the Department of Public Health Order.

What do I do if I test positive for COVID-19?

All residents of the City of Alpharetta that have tested positive for COVID-19 or are suspected to be infected with COVID-19 should isolate themselves at home and follow all requirements of the Department of Public Health Order.