

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Manchester Board of Aldermen Vote on Parks, Recreation, & Arts Summer Cancellations and Closures

MANCHESTER, Missouri, May 7, 2020 – On May 4, the City of Manchester Board of Alderman voted on a number of closures and cancellations in the City’s planned summer programming. While Manchester wants to offer as many opportunities for the community as possible, the City believes ensuring financial stability for the City, complying with State and County laws, and prioritizing the safety of patrons and staff are of the highest priority.

“There is no doubt these decisions are difficult and will be felt acutely by the residents of Manchester. The pandemic has impacted the most celebrated traditions in our community. However, these tough choices will enable us to best use our resources to employ staff, ensure public health, and secure our celebrations for future years,” says Mike Clement, Mayor of Manchester.

The City of Manchester has chosen to cancel the following events and close the following facilities:

The Manchester Aquatic Center – The City has chosen to close the Aquatic Center for the 2020 summer season, which includes cancelling the Manchester Stingrays swim team, swim lesson programs, and all aquatic exercise classes.

Fourth of July Celebration – The scheduled evening concert and fireworks show for the City’s Fourth of July Celebration have both been cancelled.

Summer Concert & Movie Series – Both summer series have been cancelled. This also includes the cancellation of the Manchester Community Band concert series.

Additional events – The City has also chosen to cancel ArtsFest and Tons of Trucks

The City of Manchester plans to offer the following events with modifications:

The following events are still being planned based on compliance with social distancing and sanitization recommendations, as well as gathering limits from St. Louis County. These events are subject to change.

Summer Camp - Continuing with summer camps is believed to be possible, but will require gathering limits, structured groups, planned gathering zones, and alternatives to swimming.

Beerfest – Beerfest has been rescheduled for July 11, 2020. The City will be ensuring modifications to observe gathering limits and social distancing.

Memorial Day – The City will be modifying this event and livestreaming it for the community. This will include the display of our Flags of Valor, the laying of a memorial wreath, and a proclamation.

Classes – The City plans to offer summer classes including sports, fitness, arts, and senior programming after undergoing heavy modification.

In addition to these events, city staff are working diligently to offer additional programs, both virtually and in person, for the Manchester community. For the most up-to-date information, visit the Manchester Parks, Recreation, & Arts website and Facebook page.

Web: www.manchestermo.gov/parks

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterParksRecArts/>

About Manchester, Missouri

The City of Manchester is located in western St. Louis County approximately 15 miles west of the City of St. Louis with a population of over 18,000 residents. Manchester's mission is to grow the superior quality of life for our diverse community through effective leadership, fiscal responsibility, and active communication.

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