

## **ORDER BY CITY OF BROKEN ARROW CLOSING CITY PARK AMENITIES IN THE CITY OF BROKEN ARROW DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

1. This Order is based on evidence of increasing occurrence of COVID-19 within Tulsa and Wagoner Counties, scientific evidence and best practices regarding the most effective approaches to slow the transmission of communicable diseases generally and COVID-19 specifically and evidence that the age, condition and health of a significant portion of the population of the City of Broken Arrow places it at risk for serious health complications, including death from COVID-19.
2. Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus in the general public, which is now a pandemic according to the World Health Organization, and in light of City of Broken Arrow Mayor Craig Thurmond's March 19, 2020 Proclamation of an Emergency due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and Governor Stitt's Fourth Amended Executive Order 2020-07 issued on March 24, 2020, there is a public health emergency throughout Tulsa and Wagoner Counties and within the City of Broken Arrow. In addition, some individuals who contract the COVID-19 virus have no symptoms or have mild symptoms, which means they may not be aware they carry the virus. Because even people without symptoms can transmit the disease, and because evidence shows the disease is easily spread, social distancing consisting of a six-foot separation between people is needed during the pandemic.
3. The scientific evidence shows that at this stage of the emergency, it is essential to slow virus transmission as much as possible to protect the most vulnerable and to prevent the health care system from being overwhelmed. One proven way to slow the transmission is to limit interactions among people to the greatest extent practicable. By reducing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this Order helps preserve critical and limited health care capacity in our region.
4. This Order is also issued in light of the existence of 41 cases of COVID-19 in Tulsa County as well as one fatality in Tulsa County, as of March 26, 2020, including a significant and increasing number of suspected cases of community transmission and likely further significant increases in transmission. This Order is necessary to slow the rate of spread. This Order will be re-evaluated as further data become available.
5. This Order comes after the release of substantial guidance from the Tulsa County Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Oklahoma State Department of Health. This Order also comes after the announcement that park amenities in neighboring communities will be closed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic creating a likelihood the persons living in those counties will travel to the City of Broken Arrow for outdoor activity and recreation.
6. Effective 8:00 a.m. Friday, March 27, 2020, and remaining in effect until this Order is rescinded, amended or superseded in writing by the City Manager for the City of Broken Arrow and Mayor of the City of Broken Arrow, all park amenities located within the City of Broken Arrow shall be closed to the public, including:
  - Playgrounds;
  - Swing sets;
  - Shelters;
  - Sports courts, including basketball, tennis and volleyball;
  - Nienhuis Skate Park;
  - Rose West Dog Park;
  - Park restrooms and drinking fountains

7. All existing reservations for shelters are canceled and the applicants will be refunded any reservation fees. New applications for shelters will not be accepted until this Order terminates.
  
8. City Parks except for the above listed amenities will remain open for recreational use so long as patrons follow the health guidelines from the Tulsa County Department of Health, including following hand-washing guidelines, having no more than 10 people in a group and following physical distancing guidelines while in the parks. These include Battle Creek Golf Course, Ray Herral Nature Park Trail, Liberty Trail, Disk Golf at Nienhuis and all remaining park trails and open areas.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

Dated: March 26, 2020

By: Craig Thurmond  
Craig Thurmond, Mayor of the City of Broken Arrow

By: Michael Spurgeon  
Michael Spurgeon, City Manager for the City of Broken Arrow

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
City Clerk (Seal)

[Signature]  
City Attorney

