

WEATHER SAFETY GUIDELINES FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAMS

Bloomington Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts (BPR&CA) reserves the right to cancel or restrict BPR&CA activities, facility rentals, and events on our grounds for weather related conditions to safeguard participants, spectators, visitors, and staff. BPR&CA will follow the National Weather Service (NWS) weather updates in conjunction with our own department guidelines. Parents/Guardians and Participants are always encouraged to use their own discretion whether to participate or to allow their child to participate under any questionable weather-related conditions. Activities will be moved indoors when available.

<u>Heat</u>: Outdoor programs and events may be cancelled if temperatures reach 100 degrees and/or a heat index of 104 degrees. SOAR will follow the Special Olympics guidelines of 95 degrees and/or a heat index of 102 or higher.

<u>Cold/Snow/Sleet/Ice</u>: If the temperature is at or below -10 degrees with or without wind chill, outdoor activities may be cancelled. Every attempt will be made to maintain normal operations during extreme winter weather conditions. When the National Weather Service has issued travel warnings during the time period of a program, scheduled activities may be cancelled.

<u>Thunder/Lightning</u>: Upon the first sight of lightning or sound of thunder, all outdoor activities should stop immediately and participants should seek shelter. If outside, avoid trees, power poles, metal structures or water related activities. **Outdoor activities will be suspended until 30 minutes after the last occurrence of thunder/lightning.**

<u>Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado Warning</u>: When a Severe Thunderstorm Warning or Tornado Warning occurs, all outdoor activities will be cancelled or must stop immediately if in progress. All participants should seek shelter. *No outdoor programs shall resume until the warning has expired or been lifted.*

<u>Rain/Wind</u>: Outdoor program cancellation for strong, or disruptive rain/wind is at the discretion of the Program Manager/Event Director. Programs and events may be delayed until rain/wind passes or may be cancelled all-together.

<u>Outdoor Pools</u>: Upon the first sign of lightning or sound of thunder, all pool activities stop immediately. Participants should seek appropriate shelter inside the pool locker rooms. *Pool activities will be suspended until 30 minutes after the last occurrence of thunder/lightning.* Pool will close if rain limits the visibility of the bottom of the pool by staff. Pool will close or have limited hours if the outside air temperature drops below 70 degrees during regular hours.

Weather Related Communication:

- 1) Program Cancellations will be determined no earlier than 1 hour prior to the start of a program. If weather worsens less than 1 hour prior, cancellations can still be made with every effort to contact participants.
- 2) Special Event Cancellations will be determined no later than 3 hours prior to start. If weather worsens less than 3 hours prior, cancellations can still be made with every effort to contact participants.
- 3) Will be posted in the following ways:

Social Media – Facebook (www.facebook.com/cityblmBPARD)

Hotline - 309-434-2386

Cancellations/Delays can be made on-site at the programs or events.

4) Contractual programs, outside rentals, school sports, or groups using city Recreation facilities are responsible for canceling their own programs and notifying their participants.

Make-Up Policy:

When applicable, efforts will be made to make up any cancelled programs and/or games with no guarantee(s).

BPR&CA HOTLINE: (309) 434-2386 www.facebook.com/cityblmBPARD MAIN OFFICE: (309) 434-2260