

Bloomington Parks & Recreation Department (BPRD) reserves the right to cancel or modify BPRD activities, facility rentals, and events on our grounds for weather-related conditions to safeguard participants, visitors, and staff. BPRD will follow the *National Weather Service (NWS)* and utilizes *AccuWeather's RealFeel* in conjunction with our own department guidelines. **Parents/Guardians and participants are always encouraged to use their own discretion whether to participate (or have their child participate) under any weather-related conditions.** Activities may be moved indoors if available.

Heat: Outdoor programs and events may be modified or cancelled if the **heat index** reaches:

- **90 degrees or below:** No modifications necessary.
- **91-98 degrees:** Precautions taken including more frequent breaks, added hydration, program modifications.
- **99-103 degrees:** Similar modifications as above. Programs and camps should be moved to shaded areas or indoors if possible. Activities may be shortened.
- **104+ degrees:** Activities will be moved indoors if possible. All others may be cancelled.

SOAR will follow the Special Olympics guidelines of 95 degrees and/or a heat index of 102+ may result in cancellation.

Thunder/Lightning: Presence of lightning or thunder, all outdoor activities will be stopped immediately, and participants should seek shelter. If outside - avoid trees, power poles, metal structures, and water related activities. **Outdoor activities will be suspended until 30 minutes after the last occurrence of thunder/lightning.**

Severe Thunderstorm/Tornado Warning: When a Severe Thunderstorm 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 been lifted.**

Outdoor Pools: All pool activities shall be suspended immediately at the first sign of lightning or sound of thunder. Participants should seek appropriate shelter inside the pool locker rooms or vehicles in the parking lot. Pool activities will be suspended until 30 minutes after the last occurrence of thunder/lightning.

- Pool will close if rain limits staff's visibility of the pool bottom.
- Pool will close, delay opening, or close early if the outside air temperature drops below **RealFeel** 70 degrees during regular hours.

Outdoor Swim Lessons: Cancellations only occur for severe weather, and not for just rainy conditions. If necessary, classes would be cancelled approximately 10 minutes prior to the start of each class.

Air Quality: The EPA instituted the Air Quality Index (AQI). When air quality reaches certain levels, programs may be modified or canceled.

- **Green & Yellow (Index 0-100):** All outdoor activities proceed without restrictions.
- **Orange (Index 101-150):** Activities may proceed outdoors with air quality warnings issued to participants. SOAR activities are modified to low exertion with mandatory breaks every 20 minutes.
- **Red (Index 151-200):** Outdoor activities move indoors if possible, or programs are cancelled.
- **Purple & Maroon (Index 201+):** All activities are cancelled or moved indoors if indoor air quality is acceptable.

Cold/Snow/Sleet/Ice: Every attempt will be made to maintain normal operations during extreme winter weather conditions. The status of programs depends on weather conditions and road safety. We will monitor the National Weather Service for driving conditions. If conditions are listed as:

- **Precautionary/Use Caution:** Programming will take place as scheduled. Outdoor programs may be moved indoors if possible.
- **Do Not Drive:** Programs cancelled.

Wind Chill is a combination of very cold air and strong winds that can create dangerous conditions. It is how cold people feel when outside. We will monitor National Weather Service local alerts and will adapt outdoor programming for:

- **Cold Weather Advisories:** Possible program modifications include moving programming indoors or shortening program sessions.
- **Extreme Cold Warnings:** All programming is moved indoors or cancelled.

Snow Clearing: Snow clearing will be prioritized from parks, park parking lots, sidewalks, and City streets. For the Constitution Trail, one six (6') foot path will be cleared from designated portions after snow events of two (2") inches or greater.

Rain/Wind: Outdoor program cancellation for strong, or disruptive rain/wind or standing water, is at the discretion of the Program Manager. Programs and events may be delayed until rain/wind passes or may be cancelled altogether.

School Closings: If schools are cancelled or have early release days, daytime programs will be canceled until 4pm. Evening and indoor programs will be dependent on weather conditions and accessibility. Decisions will be made by 3pm.

Weather-Related Communication: Notifications will not be sent out if activities are "on as scheduled". If programs are cancelled, modified and/or facility closures will be communicated in the following ways:

- **Social Media:** Bloomington Parks & Recreation Facebook page.
- **Participant Communication:** emails to participants or BAND messages (day camp) will be sent as able.
- **Cancellations/Delays:** may be made onsite at the programs or events.

Program Cancellations may be determined no earlier than 2pm for evening activities and 9pm for morning activities. If weather worsens within that timeframe, cancellations may still be made with every effort to contact participants.

Special Event Cancellations will be determined no later than 3 hours prior to event start. If weather worsens less than 3 hours prior, cancellations may still be made with every effort to contact participants.

PLEASE NOTE: 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 cancelled programs and/or games with no guarantee(s).