



## Welcome Back RECenter Members!

Our phased approach to reopening RECenters is going well since the COVID-19 shutdown, and we are moving forward with our plan to open our remaining three RECenters! Beginning Monday, July 27, Mount Vernon, Providence and George Washington RECenters will open, and recreational opportunities will again be expanded.

As of July 27, all nine RECenters will be open, with each of them following enhanced safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Reservations will also be required at all RECenters to promote social distancing and to manage occupancy limitations. Reservations are available on Sundays for the following week. Use these RECenter links to make a reservation:

- [Spring Hill](#), [Lee District](#), and [Oak Marr](#) RECenters
- [Audrey Moore](#), [Cub Run](#), and [South Run](#) RECenters
- [George Washington](#), [Providence](#), and [Mount Vernon](#)\* RECenters

*\*Due to space limitations and social distancing requirements, only cardiovascular equipment is available in the Mount Vernon RECenter fitness room. Cybex and dumbbell strength-training equipment has been removed at this location.*

## Please remember to do these things to ensure our RECenters are safe for everyone:

- Stay home if you are sick, or if you had contact with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 within the past 14 days.
- Wear a face covering or mask.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wipe down fitness equipment before and after use.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water.
- And follow marked footprints and other directional signs to help ensure safe distances from others.

## Ice Skating at Mount Vernon RECenter is now available!

- Reservations for Public Skating, Freestyle, and Stick and Puck sessions can be made using the timed entry ticketing system. Availability and additional details can be found online: [Mount Vernon](#)
- Skating specific details:
  - Come dressed and ready to skate. Benches are available to put on your skates, but seating will be limited.
  - Leave your valuables at home as lockers are not available.
  - Public Skating and Freestyle session participants will enter through the front doors.
  - Stick and Puck participants will enter through the hockey entrance. Team rooms will be available with a four-person occupancy.
  - As directed by Virginia Executive Order 63 - while skating, masks are encouraged but not required.

### **Pool reservations available for more swimmers!**

In compliance with Virginia Department of Health guidelines, we have increasing the occupancy for lap swimming and water walking to two persons per lane. This past week, some members have shared with me concerns about sharing a lane with another swimmer. While I always welcome and carefully consider feedback, our current practices are in lockstep with Virginia Department of Health guidelines that advise that one swimmer passing another swimmer in a lap lane does not pose a health or social distance concern. We have implemented this increase systemwide after careful consultation with health officials, in compliance with state mandates and federal guidance and in order to meet increased customer demand for pool access. Health officials advise that the risk occurs and increases when people remain next to each other for an extended time. In following these guidelines, we can maintain the safety of our members and guests while balancing the needs of the swimming community.

To put this in perspective, the current VA Executive Order requires 10 feet of social distancing between participant and allows for up to 75% occupancy in pools. That means our 25-meter pools could accommodate 50 participants each, and our 50-meter pools could accommodate 110 participants. The Park Authority is permitting two participants per lap lane which works out to 20 participants in 25-meter pools and 40 participants in 50-meter pools, well below the maximum allowable occupancy.

Again, the RECenter team and I are grateful for your support and are glad to see you back and working toward your fitness goals. Make your reservation, wear your mask, and get moving!

Brian Laws  
Operations Manager  
Fairfax County Park Authority