

TOWNSHIP OF WARREN
ORDER NUMBER 2020-001
ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
CLOSING OF WARREN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS

- As your elected officials, it is our paramount responsibility to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of this Township.
- The Warren Township Committee possesses by its own ordinances certain “emergency powers”.
- In order to control and contain the coronavirus in our community, the Township Committee has the right and authority to close Township parks and playing fields.

- The Township Committee may also call upon regular and auxiliary law enforcement officers to assist in preserving the general welfare and safety of the Township’s residents. .

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED AND ORDERED BY THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WARREN THAT, UNDER THE POWERS INVESTED IN IT BY ORDINANCE 3-7.3 THAT:

- The Warren Township Committee is suspending access to Township parks and playing fields for any “group” activities, effective March 13, 2020, through to and including the next Township Committee meeting to be held on April 16, 2020.
- We will revisit this decision at or prior to that date depending upon the status of control and containment of the Coronavirus.
- All sports organizations are hereby prohibited from any “group activity” on Warren Parks and playing until April 16, 2020.
- “Group activity” is hereby defined as the coming together at any one time of more than seven (7) persons for participating in any Township sponsored sports or other activities and programs.
- Fields will be monitored for compliance with this Order.
- The failure to comply with this Township Order may result in the revocation of field use permits by those who violate its terms.
- The Township Administrator is hereby given authority to work with the Public Works Department and the Recreation Department to place appropriate signage at the entrance to parks and playing fields, as he may deem appropriate in his reasonable discretion.
- With respect to NJDEP funded parkland, please note the following as per NJAC 7:36-25.10(b):

A local government unit or nonprofit that intends to close an area of funded parkland to public access or use for more than 30 days in order to protect public safety, conduct routine maintenance, or protect a specific natural or cultural resource shall notify Green Acres in writing in advance of the closure. The local government unit or nonprofit shall post a sign at the area being closed that states the reason for the closure and, if known, the date of anticipated reopening of the area.

The Township of Warren will be notifying the NJDEP of funded parkland closures to “group activities” on or prior to the March 13, 2020 effective date of this Order.

INTRODUCED	SECONDED	COMMITTEE	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
X		MAZIARZ	X			
		SORDILLO	X			
		DINARDO				X
		LAZO	X			
	X	MARION	X			

CERTIFICATION

I, Cathy Reese, Township Clerk of the Township of Warren, in the County of Somerset, New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of an order adopted at a meeting of the Township Committee held on March 12, 2020.

Cathy Reese, RMC
Township Clerk