

**LENAWEE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**301 N. Main St. Courthouse ~ Adrian, MI 49221**

(517) 264-4508

[www.lenawee.mi.us](http://www.lenawee.mi.us)



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To: All Public Agencies, Apartment Owners, Owners of Recreation Facilities and Equipment

From: David Stimpson, Chairman  
Lenawee County Board of Commissioners

Date: April 6, 2020

RE: Emergency Order Requiring the Closure of Playground Equipment and Group Athletic Areas

The attached Emergency Order 2020-04 requires All Public Agencies, Apartment Owners, and Owners of Recreation Facilities and Equipment to close park and recreation areas that encourage people to congregate. The order includes, but is not limited to, playground equipment, exercise equipment, basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, gazebos, pavilions, and any other similar area used for group sports that encourage close contact with others.

In addition to public parks, this order includes playground and recreation areas in apartment complexes, schools, and private property where access is permitted beyond immediate family members. The play equipment of day care centers is exempt from this order.

This order is not intended to prohibit individuals and families from outside exercise and recreation such as walking, cycling, running, hiking and playing so long as they do not gather in groups and they maintain social distancing guidelines.

The current pandemic, that has now reached the Lenawee County population, requires that each of us take measures to prevent further spread of COVID-19 in Lenawee County. The objective of the order is to prevent the spread of the coronavirus by adults and children congregating at parks and recreation facilities.

This is a difficult time for all and your efforts and services are greatly appreciated. If you have questions related to this order, please feel free to reach out to the Lenawee County Health Department at 517-264-5226, Option 5 or [lenaweehd@lenawee.mi.us](mailto:lenaweehd@lenawee.mi.us)

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**EMERGENCY ORDER (2020-4) FOR CONTROL OF PANDEMIC**  
**Closing children's playground equipment and group athletic areas**

This Order is made pursuant to Section 2453 of Michigan's Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368 (MCL 333.2453). Effective March 24, 2020, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer issued Executive Order No. 2020-21 which temporarily suspended activities that are not necessary to sustain or protect life continuing through April 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. Consistent with MCL 10.33 and MCL 30.405(3), a willful violation of Executive Order No. 2020-21 shall constitute a misdemeanor.

Matters concerning the public health of the residents of Lenawee County have been brought to the attention of the Lenawee County Local Health Officer. The Local Health Officer has determined that controls are necessary to reduce transmission of COVID-19 to protect the public's health of Lenawee County based on the following facts:

1. A communicable disease, novel Coronavirus, which causes COVID-19, has been identified within Lenawee County and can be transmitted from person to person.
2. In order to control and limit the spread of the Coronavirus, it is necessary to prevent and limit infected people from encountering uninfected people.
3. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention encourages "social distancing" measures. Social distancing is a conscious effort to reduce close contact between people to slow community transmission of the virus.

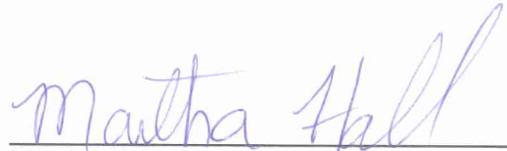
**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. Closure of all public and semi-public, indoor and outdoor playground equipment, exercise equipment, basketball courts, tennis courts, volleyball courts, soccer fields, softball and baseball fields, gazebos, pavilions, and any other similar area used for group sports that encourage close contact with others. Semi-public is defined as associated with apartment houses, condominiums, manufactured housing communities, youth clubs, community centers or similar establishments.

April 6, 2020  
Emergency Order 2020-04

2. Exempt from this order are locations within childcare centers and park areas without playground equipment like walking trails and grassy areas. These spaces allow for walking, running, hiking, cycling and playing within social distancing guidelines so individuals not of the same household remain 6 feet from each other and do not gather in groups larger than 10.
3. The contents of this Order shall be published to the members of the public at large by all reasonable means available.
4. This Order shall become effective **immediately** and shall be effective until **April 13, 2020**.

Dated: April 6, 2020

  
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Martha Hall, Health Officer  
Lenawee County Health Department

  
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David Stimpson  
Chair, Board of Commissioners