**City of Mason City**

***News Release***

Contact: Aaron Burnett, City Administrator

Subject: Mason City Playgrounds/Picnic Shelters Close Due to COVID-19

Date: April 3, 2020

***Parks and trails will remain open***

In an effort to reduce the risk of exposure of COVID-19, the playground equipment and shelter houses at all Mason City Parks will be closed immediately through April 30 at which time the closure will be re-evaluated. All park restrooms remain closed and drinking fountains are turned off. At this time, the Dog Park will remain open. City staff is in the process of installing caution tape and fencing around the equipment and shelters in the parks and placing signage as a reminder. Team sports, pickup games and contact play are prohibited. Continue to enjoy the City’s Parks and trails which will remain open for recreation purposes while managing social distancing, avoid large gatherings over 10 and wash your hands with soap and water after activity.

Residents are asked to do their part to keep family, friends, neighbors and our community safe. The City’s priority is protecting the health and safety of our residents and continuing to serve you.

While visiting any public space, use your best judgment and act responsibly. Bring your own sanitation supplies with you and adhere to the recommended guidelines of keeping social gatherings to less than 10 people and observing social distancing standards of staying at least 6 feet from others. If you do not feel well or have been sick, please stay home. And wash those hands. Stay safe!!

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