



Parks and Recreation Department  
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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
Updated on March 19, 2020

## ***COVID-19 for Parks & Recreation Department***

In response to the World Health Organization classifying the COVID-19/novel Coronavirus outbreak as a pandemic along with emergency declarations from both Governor Ron DeSantis and County Mayor Carlos Gimenez, the South Miami City Manager has declared a State of Emergency in an effort to protect residents, visitors, partners and staff from the spread of Coronavirus.

**By way of Miami-Dade County Emergency Order 06-20, the County Mayor of Miami-Dade County has issued an order that all parks, beaches and recreational facilities in the incorporated and unincorporated areas of Miami-Dade County shall be closed by 9:00 a.m., March 19, 2020.**

Therefore, all City parks, including open space parks, pool facilities, park facilities and indoor facilities are CLOSED to the public as this order applies to both publicly-owned and privately-owned parks, beaches, and recreational facilities. This order does not apply to parks, beaches, and recreational facilities under the jurisdiction of the State of Florida and the federal government.

Patrons shall refrain from using city parks until further notice as local authorities will be frequently patrolling and enforcing laws. Any violation of the aforementioned emergency measures may subject the individual or business entity to criminal penalties. All updates will be shared on the City's website and our Facebook page ([southmiamiparksandrec](https://www.facebook.com/southmiamiparksandrec)). We are grateful for your support and understanding as we keep the safety of our residents, visitors and staff our top priority.

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**March 17, 2020 Release (synopsis)**

The Gibson-Bethel Community Center is now closed to the public until further notice.

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**March 12, 2020 Release (synopsis)**

All organized and contracted recreation activities, including group fitness classes, tennis services at Dante Fascell Park, senior service programs, sports programs, afterschool programs and camps are suspended until further notice. All upcoming facility rentals and special events are canceled until the declaration of emergency is terminated by the City Manager.

City parks and the fitness center located at the Gibson-Bethel Community are currently open until further notice.

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