



For Immediate Release 2021

## Re-Opening of Paradise Cove

*The City of Richmond will be reopening the Paradise Cove Aquatic Facility this summer, with rules in place to help keep everyone safe and healthy time!*

**Richmond, KY— 2021** – The Paradise Cove Aquatic Facility is one of the most popular attractions in the City of Richmond, and receives some of the highest daily attendance out of any regional recreational facility. Last year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Paradise Cove had to cease operations for the summer. This year, starting May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the pool will be reopening to the general public. There will be regulations in place to help ensure a safe and healthy environment for guests and staff.

Hours of operation for Paradise Cove will be broken out into two (2) separate sessions each day, with pre-registration required. In between sessions, pool staff will clean and disinfect common use areas to create a sanitary environment. The sessions are:

- Monday – Saturday
  - 11:00AM – 2:30PM
  - 3:30PM – 7:00PM
- Sunday
  - 1:00PM – 3:00PM
  - 4:00PM – 6:00PM

Additionally, the pricing and pass structure will be changing in accordance with the new session-based operations. Season passes will NOT be offered this upcoming season, instead there will be a flat daily admission cost of \$6 per person, per session for Monday thru Saturday, and \$5 on Sunday. Any children 3 and under will be admitted into the facility at no cost. We will have limited concessions this year, and will not be offering swim lessons during the 2021 session. Anyone who purchased season passes for 2020, and chose to roll them over to 2021, will get a refund.

In order to create an easier process for guests to register and enter the facility, the admission process has been revamped this season. If a guest wishes to attend Paradise Cove, they will be required to pre-register no earlier than the day before their intended visit. Pre-registration links will be found on the Parks website as well as across their various social media channels. The registration will only be open 24 hours before a specific session timeslot. Guests are required to pay at the time of the online registration to help reduce congestion during the admittance process on the day of **(NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED; INCLUDING WEATHER RELATED REFUNDS)**. Also, as a part of the new rules of operation, the daily attendance per time session will be limited to 388 guests, not including staff. This is based on the Governor's Healthy at Work Guidelines which is based on surface area of the pool. Once a session is sold out, no more tickets will be added for that session. No individual is allowed to sign up for more than two (2) sessions in a 7-day window. We are hopeful this system will allow everyone in Richmond to have the opportunity and availability to attend.

Once a ticket has been purchased, guests will be sent a QR code to the provided email address or via text message. This QR code will act as their admittance ticket for the session for which they have pre-registered.

This year, guests are welcome to bring their own chairs and/or tents into the facility. These can be set up in the large grass area inside the facility. Guests may also bring in bottles of water, but they

cannot be in a cooler. (Alcohol is still banned from inside the facility and any guests caught with alcohol will be asked to leave immediately. No glass bottles of any kind). A limited number of chairs will be available on site, but guests are asked NOT to move or shift them as they have already been placed at distances that meet current social distancing guidelines. Guests are also asked to not approach lifeguards unless there is an emergency as they need to be kept safe and healthy in order to perform their job.

These new rules are being implemented in a manner to help minimize confusion and as a bare minimum requirement to keep staff and guest healthy. The Parks staff has been working on updating the rules and regulations for several months and they are simply required this year so that we are able to reopen again.

“We understand that these new policies are not ideal, but we have faith that people will be able to adjust,” stated Erin Moore, Parks Administration Director, “Having the pool reopen is very important to our community, and speaking as a parent of two young children, it is a crucial part of making these lifetime summer memories. We are always reevaluating our rules and will make the changes that we feel are necessary to strike that balance between fun and health.”

The City of Richmond is thrilled to be able to reopen this beloved summer activity and hopes that the new guidelines can help create a safe area for people to enjoy their summer! If there are any questions or concerns about this summer’s policies, please contact the Richmond Parks and Recreation Department at [parksandrec@richmond.ky.us](mailto:parksandrec@richmond.ky.us). Once Paradise Cove opens, questions can be directed the facility at 859-626-7665 during normal hours of operation. The Department will also be posting updates to times, regulations, and information on their social media channels @richmondkparcs or @paradisecoveky. Guests are highly encouraged to follow these pages for the most up to date information. The City will continue to follow state and federal guidelines and will be constantly reassessing the needs and safety priorities of Paradise Cove throughout this season in hopes of creating a place this is both fun and exciting while also healthy as possible.

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