



## PRPS Virtual Roundtable April 3, 2020 Program & Events Discussion

**Question: How many of your staffs have been laid off or furloughed? Did you Council/Board give a reason why to either scenario?**

- Tonya Brown, Mechanicsburg Area Rec. Department - We at Mech Area are still working. Staff is working from home. documenting everything they do.
  - (Keith Kurowski) Tonya, all deemed essential?  
(Tonya Brown) I am, I am serving food to children in need
- Kristy Owens, Silver Spring Township - Everyone at Silver Spring Twp. is still working (from home)
- Mike Richino, Whitpain Twp. Parks & Rec - Everyone at Whitpain is working. We have the option of working from home or also to take time off at 75% salary
- Tammy Echevarria, Upper Dublin Parks & Recreation - Fulltime Recreation is all working remotely, part-time staff has been furloughed, Parks staff has been split into two crews and are working alternating weeks.
- Derek Muller, Montgomery Township - all full time staff (4) are working on a limited basis. Myself and my director will be paid for the time being. TBD on the office admin and maintenance director
- Chalet Harris, Dover Township - (York Co) working in the office but public not allowed in
- Jackie Bittel, Bethlehem Township - Fulltime staff paid and working remotely, limited in the facility. Bethlehem Township part time staff all being paid through April 18th - approximately 125
- Ryan Giffiths, City of Allentown Parks and Recreation Department - All Recreation Staff are directed to be working from home until April 16th at this time. We currently have stopped all organized field rentals and pavilion rentals. Playgrounds and dog parks have been closed. Basketball rims have been removed or locked. Additionally, all special events have been cancelled through the month of May, we are continuing to do phone/virtual interviews for seasonal aquatics and playground program staff.
- Karen Schreiber, Muhlenberg Township - Staff are remotely working. Maintenance staff is still working. We are being paid, but will re-evaluated if this last a prolonged time.
- Patrick Graham, Middletown Township (Bucks County) - all full-time staff working remotely. Programming staff is working on a limited basis to cancel/reschedule current programs and creating free online programming for residents
- Crystal, Lake Naomi Club – We are a private club in the Poconos, Monroe county. We are all working from home minus maintenance and F&B, all full and part time staff is being paid until April 15 and they will reevaluate then. we have canceled all events until memorial day
- Jane Delaney, Lower Providence Township - staff are all still working in the office at this time. Parks /Public works crew are working on a split week schedule. Starting next week the admin office will start working split shifts too.
- Keith Kurowski, Borough of West Chester - all parks open (our parks aren't very large) but pretty much everything within the parks are cautioned off and not for use. This includes playgrounds, bball courts, tennis courts, swings, etc... Borough of West Chester ALL events, classes, and activities are canceled/postponed thru the end of April with the anticipation that its going to be much longer.
- Audrey Logar, Camp Hill Recreation Commission - Hello! I am working remotely through the end of April.
- Nancy, Northampton Township - PR staff are working remotely. All employees including part time staff are being paid through April 10th. Paying all through April 30th is being considered. camp is being planned as normal. few people have already requested refunds. However, we are still getting a few registrations as well. we are cancelling events two weeks out.

**Question: Another thing to share could be other vendors who are doing videos/classes, etc. I know I would like to add more of that to our social media./ Question: What is everyone's Township's policy on promoting 3rd party vendors? Including usual partners who provide recreational programming. Any programming we do virtually will strictly be myself running it (Program Director).**

- (Chalet Harris) @YorkAreaRecDirectors on Facebook
- (Joanna Sharapan) Feel free to share anything we post on the Greater Plymouth Community Center's Facebook page.
- (Tammy Echevarria) We are doing a virtual Egg Hunt - details on [www.upperdublirec.net](http://www.upperdublirec.net)
- (Chalet) [www.thewordsearch.com](http://www.thewordsearch.com) - Make your own wordsearch
- (Patrick Graham)  
[http://www.middletonbucks.org/government/departments/parks\\_recreation\\_and\\_community\\_services/middleton\\_township\\_remote\\_rec.php](http://www.middletonbucks.org/government/departments/parks_recreation_and_community_services/middleton_township_remote_rec.php)
- (Tonya Brown) [www.mbgds.org](http://www.mbgds.org) and FB at Mechanicsburg Area Parks and Recreation
- (Chalet) - Facebook Page - @primaryplayground. they post a scavenger hunt each day
- (Josh Green) [https://www.mbgds.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC\\_ID=841214&type=d&pREC\\_ID=1225539](https://www.mbgds.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=841214&type=d&pREC_ID=1225539)
- (Tonya Brown) - <https://www.nrpa.org/about-national-recreation-and-park-association/press-room/NRPA-statement-on-using-parks-and-open-space-while-maintaining-social-distancing/>
- (Lauren Irizarry) - FB @CommunityCenterattheFel
- (Emily Labowitz) - Whitemarsh Township Parks & Recreation is doing daily activities.  
<https://www.facebook.com/WhitemarshParks/>
- (Beth Lee) - Centre Region Parks & Recreation <https://www.crpr.org/keep-active-during-covid-19>
- (Chris Rain) - I did a virtual real time scavenger hunt on Friday 3/27. 10 clues, posted every 5 minutes. People posted a photo in the comments of each clue when they found the item. We are planning to do it again.  
[https://www.facebook.com/MSTParksandRec/?notif\\_id=1585760458514729&notif\\_t=scheduled\\_post\\_published](https://www.facebook.com/MSTParksandRec/?notif_id=1585760458514729&notif_t=scheduled_post_published)
- (Ryan Griffiths) [www.allentownpa.gov/Parks-And-Recreation](http://www.allentownpa.gov/Parks-And-Recreation) FB Page- @allentownparksandrec
- (Nancy O'Palka) National Alliance for Youth Sports is offering free Start Smart Baseball nays.org
- Eric Carle reads The Very Hungry Caterpillar  
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkYmvxP0AJI&fbclid=IwAR19VYTj5jD5dq4QGZtmwbum\\_deru-oTXlugk5b2tv\\_gMgD3vF8Yi\\_OaVWM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkYmvxP0AJI&fbclid=IwAR19VYTj5jD5dq4QGZtmwbum_deru-oTXlugk5b2tv_gMgD3vF8Yi_OaVWM)
- Livestream the Northern Lights (and other cool live cams) - <https://explore.org/livestreams/aurora-borealis-northern-lights/northern-lights-cam>
- Laurie Bernkner is doing free concerts on Facebook most weekdays at 10am.  
- <https://www.facebook.com/LaurieBerknerBand/photos/a.57697803329/10158227599388330/?type=3>
- 30+ free printable scavenger hunts for kids - <https://buggyandbuddy.com/30-free-printable-scavenger-hunts-for-kids/?fbclid=IwAR1-btK-WH8-yfhM7jBppPkgOPg99DLFAU3uyxiCvH0EBaA5njSgM3vGMZk>
- American Camp Association - <https://acanynj.publishpath.com/events-conferences#/events>
- Paris Opera - <https://www.operadeparis.fr/>
- Virtual Field Trips - <https://freedomhomeschooling.com/virtual-field-trips/>
- Outschoool.com – free classes - [https://outschoool.com/2020-school-closures-offer?fbclid=IwAR1gwy0W1nt5ggmxVoSRljyUalH7Z0tjMSmoWBZtQx6wgcl\\_MVEBKBj5tvY#abk7z67zgq](https://outschoool.com/2020-school-closures-offer?fbclid=IwAR1gwy0W1nt5ggmxVoSRljyUalH7Z0tjMSmoWBZtQx6wgcl_MVEBKBj5tvY#abk7z67zgq)
- ZooAmerica live videos 11am - <https://www.facebook.com/ZooAmerica/>
- Virtual Farm Tours - [https://www.americandairy.com/news-and-events/dairy-diary/dairy-farming/virtual-farm-tours-while-youre-stuck-at-home.shtml?fbclid=IwAR2ac7KjgaW-t2CS5CEOf4jYcGeG5zkaCaFEun\\_q0WVr1S8l3GJTG8ZTFQ4](https://www.americandairy.com/news-and-events/dairy-diary/dairy-farming/virtual-farm-tours-while-youre-stuck-at-home.shtml?fbclid=IwAR2ac7KjgaW-t2CS5CEOf4jYcGeG5zkaCaFEun_q0WVr1S8l3GJTG8ZTFQ4)

- Disney Imagineering in a Box - [https://disneyparks.disney.go.com/blog/2019/08/walt-disney-imagineering-partners-with-khan-academy-to-bring-you-imagineering-in-a-box/?fbclid=IwAR3c2NB1CVMe\\_51hzGVZTtWqvgJvDx7H6pwomPuxT3h3WeMold\\_DcX9ITUo](https://disneyparks.disney.go.com/blog/2019/08/walt-disney-imagineering-partners-with-khan-academy-to-bring-you-imagineering-in-a-box/?fbclid=IwAR3c2NB1CVMe_51hzGVZTtWqvgJvDx7H6pwomPuxT3h3WeMold_DcX9ITUo)
- Broadway stars streaming nightly performances - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcLevqLUq4hzVxLn3b\\_ubNw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcLevqLUq4hzVxLn3b_ubNw)
- Scholastic Learn At Home provides about three hours of learning opportunities per day, for up to four weeks of instruction, including writing and research projects, virtual field trips, reading and geography challenges, and more.  
Link: <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/.../learnathome.html>
- Mystery Science is offering free mini lessons that are completely digital and full lessons that include an activity. All of the activities are designed to use simple supplies that are likely already in your home.  
Link: <https://mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning>
- Khan Academy offers free educational lessons in a multitude of areas that can help offset the unexpected time out of school.  
Link: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
- The link below is an A-Z list of free educational materials/learning sites for students (and resources for teachers/educators). The list is lengthy, but they are working on a filtering system to better locate what is needed.  
Link: <http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/>
- Storytime from Space - <https://storytimefromspace.com/>
- Baltimore Aquarium live streams - <https://www.aqua.org/Experience/live>
- List of 10 free learning websites for kids - <https://www.facebook.com/284758952208321/photos/a.285407285476821/503939443623603/?type=3&theater>
- Harry the Dirty Dog read by Betty White (and many others read by other stars) - <https://www.storylineonline.net/books/harry-the-dirty-dog/?fbclid=IwAR1qFIdQVj1qBHtsJxehBvH-bgFBJVzazF9m83hD-MfkoM0x7YW9m0edMJg>
- Monterey Bay Aquarium live streams - <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams>
- NASA Image & Video Library - <https://images.nasa.gov/>
- Google Doc – VR Field Trips - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZAxvFV2\\_uSk44q75y4odr8XjuZ7KWUDvkSptHi6TVfE/edit?fbclid=IwAR3dbzZTAowFr-nT8p86Z6bFIk22fibfPv7\\_KFjH4nwXpi1pOdesV2b35A](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ZAxvFV2_uSk44q75y4odr8XjuZ7KWUDvkSptHi6TVfE/edit?fbclid=IwAR3dbzZTAowFr-nT8p86Z6bFIk22fibfPv7_KFjH4nwXpi1pOdesV2b35A)
- Scholastic learn at home - <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>
- 33 National Parks Tours (Virtual) - <https://totallythebomb.com/heres-33-national-park-tours-you-can-take-virtually-from-the-comfort-of-your-home?fbclid=IwAR25gKSoAGf627tDOy5-2XPD3AHoVUfnP2rsRm8-Vmd1ibzAp5ZvnQQUXO4>
- Giant List of Ideas for Being Home with Kids (google doc) - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o6kEgCKLn3cylm2hehhSTIk7yRTd0C3zx49JS4wwCI/edit?fbclid=IwAR0PtH9kKhdAeXwdYLSGEaygLCndWosn8azXnn3k205UCZSdZtaXCT2CQs>
- 12 Museum Virtual Tours - [https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours?fbclid=IwAR2QCuucTx9r7FSh5NbfSwwINK2s4E\\_nsbVpl0XPN8loktCJEtpzMnGvP4](https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours?fbclid=IwAR2QCuucTx9r7FSh5NbfSwwINK2s4E_nsbVpl0XPN8loktCJEtpzMnGvP4)
- Metropolitan Opera Streams - [https://operawire.com/metropolitan-opera-to-offer-up-nightly-met-opera-streams/?fbclid=IwAR0qY1gnk\\_eV1L3ETEZWIOYf5TfKQmrZ9ZNDttX6-RvgDzMUcwuSLU1\\_EVs](https://operawire.com/metropolitan-opera-to-offer-up-nightly-met-opera-streams/?fbclid=IwAR0qY1gnk_eV1L3ETEZWIOYf5TfKQmrZ9ZNDttX6-RvgDzMUcwuSLU1_EVs)

**Question - I'm curious who utilizes the schools for their programs and is on hold pending when/if students go back**

- (Derek Muller) All programs and events through August are planned and advertised via our Rec Newsletter. We have suspended all registrations and payments to eliminate financial headaches. The Rec Newsletter is available at montcrc.com, and people can reach out to us via email with questions. Also no further vendor booking at the moment for camp or Autumn Festival
- (Tammy) UDP&R has canceled all Programs/trips and events through 4/30. Rescheduled our Triathlon from 5/17 to 8/30. Large Dine & Dance event scheduled for 6/26 - fireworks, band, food trucks has been canceled.

- (Joanna Sharapan) Plymouth has canceled all events through April. Still keeping our fingers crossed for May and summer.
- (Ryan Griffiths) The lack of school use is a huge challenge for us. I can elaborate if that is ok
- (Kristy Owens) Silver Spring Township is also delaying programs/events through April 30th. We're moving things as updates come.
- (Jane Delaney) We are waiting to hear from the Gov and or the school about camp.
- (Tammy Echevarria) All outside groups have been canceled from UDSD until Memorial Day at this time. We use schools for our Summer Camps. We have developed a relocation plan and placed all camps in alternative sites and will reevaluate on 4/27. If no word from UDSD we will move forward with the relocation plan on 5/1. We will look at combining programs and reducing numbers

**Question: What are people doing with sponsors that have sponsored events or leagues that have been cancelled? / Has anyone had discussions about refunds for camps, programs?**

- (Derek Muller) - As far as Community Center Memberships - they will be adjusted at the end of the pandemic accordingly. We are not advertising membership refunds, but will give them only if necessary and by request.
- (Patrick graham) - We haven't refunded anyone yet and are waiting to see what happens. If we can push these registrations into our next sessions of our programs we will do that but if this continues into the summer, we will likely refund. We are also running online yoga and Zumba classes through GoToMeeting for free to give people the opportunity to still take their favorite programs, and will explore charging for these online programs in the future depending on how long this goes.
- (Joanna Sharapan) - We didn't finish our winter programs, so we refunded for missed classes. We never even started Spring registration. Summer camp registration started and we are just waiting to see what happens. We have shut down all online registration at this point.
- (Tammy Echevarria) - We processed either full or prorated refunds for all programs/trips or events through 4/30. No one has requested a summer camp refund and we have received a few new registrations
- (Emily Eckert) - For Lancaster Rec youth sport programs that have been cancelled, we are crediting accounts for future use. If they request a refund instead, we are processing that for them.
- (Kristy Owens) - We postponed our 5k but gave runners the option to take a full refund, make a donation of all or a portion of their race fee, or no refund to participate in the future race.

**Question: Is anyone concerned about, when this is all over what kind of a response they might have to a large scale event?**

- (Derek Muller) I don't see the world rushing back to full scale events. I see everything being scaled back and more limited. I think it'll be a year or two before we're back to "normal"

**Question: What is everyone doing about their newsletter and information placed in it?**

- (Joanna Sharapan) Our current publication is our spring/summer program guide and we held it and didn't mail it yet.
- (Joanne) - Same in Middletown Twp., Bucks County
- (Derek Muller) - Our newsletter was printed and mailed just before closure, so too late for us. We are going ahead and prepping our Spray Pad
- (Matt) We just put a stamp on the front that all programs events etc. are subject to change. That we will make updates via Facebook page. We are NOT sending out our summer newsletter via mail this year.
- (Kathy Wegener) - Our Program Guide that covers through December, and it is too late to alter content - so it is going forward as planned - delaying distribution until mid-late May.
- (Patrick Graham) - Middletown Twp. Bucks County does ours in house and we are postponing it since we aren't sure that the activities in the guide will be happening.

- (Tammy Echevarria) - We have delayed our full Leisure Guide. We are possibly sending a reduced Summer only guide in early May and posting full guide online12:02:04
- (Rachelle Scott) Lower Paxton - we are looking to using this as an opportunity to convert to a digital Program Guide.
- (Audrey Logar) - Ours will be online only and offer 1/2 ads if they would like.

**Questions: Field Rentals: Issuing credits to teams, giving them extended rental time once fields are lifted or refunds?**

- (Matt) - I manage 27 athletic fields. All field rentals have been canceled up to April 30
- (Audrey Logar) - We have given refund for rentals through April.
- (Tammy Echevarria) - We have canceled all through April. We will be extending uses.
- (Patrick Graham) Middletown Twp. bases their fee for renting fields off of a week's usage so regardless of the amount of time they use it during the season they would have paid the same rate. However, depending on how long this goes we may give them some sort of credit towards next year's fee if they already paid for this season

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