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## Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Rec District

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## District Project Updates

**The Casey Jones Master Plan Committee is making progress on the development of a draft master plan for the park. The plan will be presented to the Board once completed.**

**The District is working with Elbert County and some HOA groups to assess potential improvements to some neighborhood open space areas. The addition of walking trails and improved management of these natural areas can be beneficial to residents living near the spaces. The goal is to partner with residents of these neighborhoods to improve these spaces as they may desire.**

**The District is working with a local teen with the American Heritage Girls who is coordinating a project to create a sensory garden along the new town trail coming into Evans Park. Installation will begin in mid-August. The garden will appeal to all the senses and provide trail users with a relaxing oasis along their journey.**

## Fall Sports Registrations

### Adult Kickball

Returning for its 3<sup>rd</sup> season, adult kickball is all the rage! Gather your team and join the fun this fall. Teams play on Friday evenings beginning August 7<sup>th</sup> and ending on September 25<sup>th</sup> at Evans Park. Cost is \$250 per team. Teams must have a minimum of 3 female players for each game.

### Youth Tackle Football

The District is currently monitoring guidance from state and national health and athletic organizations on tackle football to determine if the sport can be played with a reasonable level of safety for participants and their families this coming fall. Further updates will be provided as available.

## **YOUTH SOCCER AND FLAG FOOTBALL REGISTRATION ENDS August 11th - AVOID LATE FEES – REGISTER NOW**

### Youth Flag Football

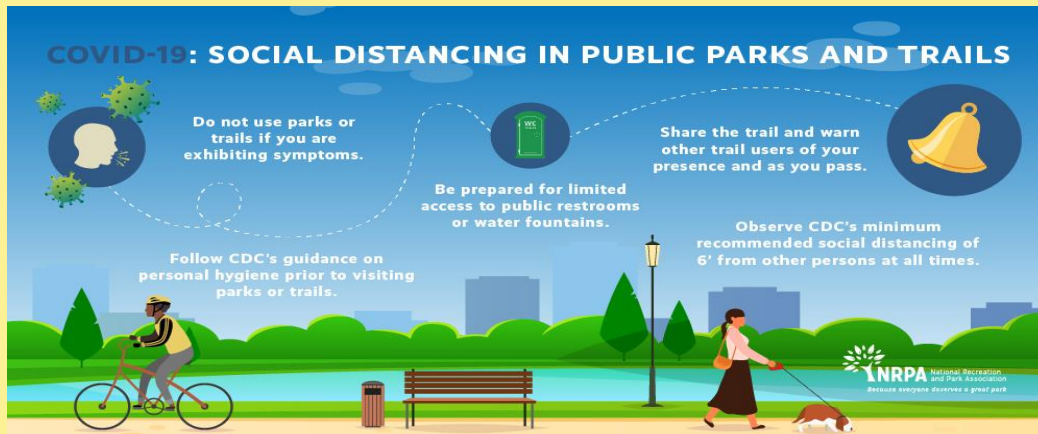
This is a recreational level league. All games and practices are held in Elizabeth. Teams practice 1- 2 times per week and play games on Saturday afternoons. Games begin 9/5 and tournament is on 10/24. Volunteer coaches are needed. Divisions: 4-6, 6-8, 9-11 Youth that overlap two divisions should choose the division that best suits their skill level

### Youth Soccer

This is a recreational level soccer league. All games and practices are held in Elizabeth. Teams practice 1-2 times per week and play a game on Saturday mornings. Games begin 9/5 and tournament is on 10/24.

Volunteer coaches are needed. Divisions: 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12 Youth that overlap two divisions should choose the division that best suits their skill level

# Covid-19 District Response Plan Updates



The District continues its efforts to maintain most park operations while encouraging all park visitors to maintain social distancing to the point feasible, wear masks when distancing is not possible, and stay away from the parks when feeling any signs of illness. The virus continues to present a significant health threat to many vulnerable individuals within our families and community, and it is critical that we continue to actively combat its spread.

Most all activities in the parks have returned, though many with specific modifications that we ask be respected. Sports fields are being used for all levels of activity at this time, and groups that are permitting the fields are responsible for encouraging their participants and attendees to comply with guidelines and recommendations. The District's youth sports programs will begin using fields in late August, and the District will provide families with any virus related participation guidelines and expectations at that time.

The splashpad in Evans Park will continue to be operated on a reservation based system at this time. It will be operated as normal once social distancing measures are eased.

The Casey Jones Pavilion is open for permitting and limited to 50% capacity, or 50 people. Playgrounds are open, though park visitors should self-limit use to 10 youth at a time. Playground equipment cannot be kept disinfected, so younger children that cannot keep hands from their mouths should avoid use. All users should disinfect / wash hands frequently during and after use.

The Park District office remains physically closed to the public, but we are open for business Mon-Fri from 9-5 for calls and email inquiries.

## Message from the Director

July is National Parks and Recreation Month

Because parks and recreation programs are so valuable to us all, the National Recreation and Park Association has marked the entire month of July as a time to celebrate and appreciate our local, state, and national park systems across the country. We at the District are proud to serve you by maintaining and developing your parks, coordinating recreation programs, and hosting special events. We know that times continue to be difficult for many, stress levels remain high, and everybody wishes for a return to normal, so if there is anything we can do to help improve community spirits, I ask that you please let us know.

I also ask that during the month of July, if you are in the park and see a District staff member, take a moment to thank them for all they do to care for your park system, while practicing social distancing of course. These individuals care deeply about the spaces that you come to enjoy and though they know the community appreciates it, letting them know will certainly enhance their day.

Thanks for your continued support of the Elizabeth Park and Recreation District and have a safe and fun July.



Flying Kites

### Quote of the Month

The end of labor is to gain leisure.

- Aristotle -