



**Media Contact:**

Jessie Nunery  
*Media Relations Specialist*  
(252) 972-1268  
*jessie.nunery@rockymountnc.gov*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 9, 2021

## **Parks and Recreation facilities to open under pandemic guidelines**

**Rocky Mount, N.C.** – Governor Roy Cooper’s Executive Order No. 195, which eases some restrictions on business and gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic, has afforded the city of Rocky Mount Parks and Recreation Department facilities to begin operating under certain guidelines.

The South Rocky Mount and Booker T. Washington Community centers, Rocky Mount Senior Center, and Imperial Centre for the Arts and Sciences will begin operating at reduced capacity on Monday, March 15. Each facility will begin allowing booking rentals April 1. Masks must be worn by visitors and staff at each facility. The use of water fountains will not be permitted at each facility, and regularly touched areas, including restrooms, will be disinfected frequently.

In addition, the Rocky Mount Sports Complex will open to the public for travel sporting events effective Saturday, March 13. The complex will operate at reduced capacity, with no more than 100 spectators allowed per field. Concessions sales will only include drinks and pre-packaged items. Visitors, players, coaches, and referees will use masks when they cannot practice social distancing.

The Rocky Mount Event Center will continue to hold youth sporting events at modified levels. Inquiries regarding reservations for the Family and Entertainment Center as well as meeting events and banquet rooms should be referred to the Event Center staff.

“We are excited to re-open our parks and recreation facilities to members of our community as well as guests,” Rocky Mount City Manager Rochelle Small-Toney said. “The well-being of our staff and visitors will remain a priority as we begin holding events in our city.”

Visitors to the Rocky Mount Senior Center are encouraged to call in advance. Proper signage for COVID-19 guidelines will be posted throughout all facilities.

Visit [rockymountnc.gov](http://rockymountnc.gov) for more information.

**About Rocky Mount:** The city of Rocky Mount, located in the Coastal Plains of North Carolina, was incorporated in 1867 and lies in Edgecombe and Nash Counties. Rocky Mount is a two-time

All-America City on the Tar River. Serving as the Gateway to Eastern North Carolina, the city's 875 employees serve approximately 58,000 residents daily.

The city's mission is to advance community well-being, safety and quality of life by delivering excellent public services and actively collaborating with the community towards a fulfilling and inspired future for its citizens. As a publicly-owned utility, the city of Rocky Mount is committed to safe, reliable service for its customers and operates in Nash and Edgecombe counties, providing customers with electricity, natural gas, water, wastewater (sewer), refuse, recycling and/or stormwater services. To learn more, visit [www.rockymountnc.gov](http://www.rockymountnc.gov) for news and updates.

###