



COVID-19 Public Health
GUIDANCE FOR BLOCK PARTIES

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12:00 pm

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Public Health Director
Department of Public Health
Village of Oak Park

Pursuant to Village of Oak Park Resolution 20-120 dated March 13, 2020, the Oak Park Village Board declared an emergency affecting the public health due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease pursuant to Section 8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5, and Sections 2-6-10, 2-27-9 and 20-1-6(Z) of the Oak Park Village Code through April 6, 2020. Said emergency was first extended through May 5, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-124 and later extended through June 1, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-128 dated April 27, 2020. Pursuant to these resolutions and Section 20-1-6(AB) of the Oak Park Village Code, which was adopted by the Village Board on May 28, 2020 by Ordinance 20-041, the Village’s Public Health Director has the authority to make “reasonable rules, regulations and orders as may from time to time be deemed necessary . . . due to the outbreak of COVID-19 disease in the State of Illinois through November 15, 2020.”

GUIDANCE

The Village of Park (“Village”) encourages block parties as a way to build community spirit, meet neighbors and have fun. As the State of Illinois transitions to Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan, the Village will accept petitions from residents to hold block parties after June 26, 2020.

1. During Phase 4 of Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker’s Restore Illinois plan, block parties are limited to no more than fifty (50) people at any one time. The more people an individual interacts with at a gathering and the longer that interaction lasts, the higher the potential risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 and COVID-19 spreading.
2. People shall stay home and not participate in a block party if they:
 - Show COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Have tested positive for COVID-19 and are still within a required isolation period.
 - Have been in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.

3. Tables and chairs should be set up at least six (6) feet apart.
4. Participants should maintain a six (6) foot distance from each other.
5. Face coverings should be worn by participants at all times during the block party. Face coverings may be removed to eat or drink. Participants should maintain a six (6) foot distance from non-immediate household members when eating or drinking.
6. Participants who are not from the same household should not share foods and/or beverages during the block party. Self-service of shared foods, including hot bars, cold bars, and buffets is discouraged. Pot-luck style food sharing, where each participant brings a food dish to share with other participants is discouraged.
7. Tables, chairs or frequently touched surfaces should be disinfected several times during the block party using guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html>.
8. The use of single-use plates, utensils and napkins are encouraged.
9. If condiments are provided, single-use packet condiments are encouraged.
10. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content should be made available for participants' use. The use of temporary hand-washing stations with water, soap and paper towels for washing hands is encouraged.
11. Petting zoos and/or bouncy houses are prohibited.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, please call the Illinois Department of Public Health at 1-800-889-3931 or email DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV. Further information can be found at the following web links:

- [Village of Oak Park COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: How to Protect Yourself](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health Social Distancing Measures](#)

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