

ATHLETIC FACILITY CLOSURES & INCLEMENT WEATHER GUIDELINES

Plymouth Parks & Recreation (City) attempts to be flexible in accommodating user groups, but ultimately the health and safety of the user and the condition and playability of the athletic facilities takes priority. This may require the closure of athletic facilities, denial of use, and/or identifying alternative sites for use by City staff whenever weather or field conditions dictate.

Events, programs, and/or facilities may be cancelled/postponed, or closed by the City if it determines that weather conditions are unsafe for participants, conducting the activity will have a severe and lasting impact on a field or facility, or crews are unable to maintain safe access to a field or facility.

As a general weather guideline if weather warning sirens sound, lightning strikes, or severe storms are sighted in the area, outdoor activities should stop and participants are encouraged to seek shelter immediately.

User groups cannot play on fields that have been closed by the City. Failure to follow the policy could result in forfeiture of the group permit, paying for damage to fields, and/or loss of the ability to reserve fields in the future.

1. In case of unplayable field conditions due to inclement weather, Monday through Friday, City staff will send an email to school district contacts by 1:30 p.m. and to association or tournament contacts by 3:00 p.m. informing them that activities on all or select Plymouth fields are cancelled. The weather line telephone number is 763.509.5205.
2. Should weather conditions change after 3:00p.m., decisions will be made on site by the umpire, referee, coaches, and/or City staff.
3. In the case of weather creating unsafe conditions on weekends, it is the decision of the City staff, coach, umpire, and/or referee whether a game/practice should be played taking into consideration the condition and location of the field.
4. If conditions allow for play to occur but field preparation was not able to be completed by City staff, associations may utilize their own maintenance crews for field preparation. The City will attempt to notify associations of which fields were not prepared.
5. User groups are responsible for cancelling athletic facility use on-site if poor or unsafe field conditions exist. Athletic facility users shall take reasonable measures to protect participants and spectators from known safety hazards. The definition of poor or unsafe field conditions includes, but is not limited to.
 - a. Weather (e.g., lightning, winds, or heavy rains).
 - b. Standing water on the field.
 - c. Water surfacing or bubbling up when walking on turf or playing surface.
 - d. Field is muddy or soft to the point that footing becomes unstable.
 - e. Sharp or other dangerous objects that cannot easily be removed are on the field. For instance, trash, broken glass, large unmovable rocks, broken base pegs, holes, etc. (notify the City immediately).
 - f. Unsecured goals (notify the City immediately).