

City of Gahanna Department of Parks & Recreation
Gahanna Senior Center
Reopening Plan – October 2020

The Gahanna Senior Center (GSC) provides programming and services for the older adult population (ages 55 and over). On March, 13, 2020, the GSC was closed at the mandate of the Governor of the State of Ohio due to the COVID-19 pandemic. According to the CDC, the risk of severe illness from COVID-19 increases as people age and those at high-risk of severe illness from COVID-19 also include people of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:

- a) People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma;
- b) People who have serious heart conditions
- c) People who are immune compromised;
- d) People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher);
- e) People with diabetes;
- f) People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis;
- g) People with liver disease; and
- h) Women who are pregnant.

This reopening plan is subject to review and approval by Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) and may be amended or suspended based on directives from FCPH, the Ohio Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control or the Governor of Ohio.

General

Projected Date of Reopening: Thursday, November 5, 2020 with office hours on Monday, November 2.
Days/Hours of Operation: Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Testing of Staff

All City of Gahanna staff who work within the Gahanna Senior Center will participate in routine (once every-other week) testing, as defined as a requirement by the Ohio Department of Health. Parks and Recreation staff are in communication with the City of Gahanna Human Resources Director as we further define a strategic testing plan. The tentative plan is to leverage the City's relationship with ExpressMed Urgent Care to provide testing and reporting of results for staff on an ongoing basis. Contract staff (e.g. fitness instructors) will need to comply with the testing requirement in order to be authorized to resume instruction in the facility.

Testing of Patrons

The City of Gahanna will not require routine testing of patrons. In the event that a patron displays signs and symptoms of CV-19 upon arrival for an activity or at any time during an activity, they will be asked to leave the building and will not be permitted to return until they can provide proof of a negative test, clearance from a physician or have been symptom-free for at least 14 days. Senior Center staff will aid patrons in locating an appropriate COVID-19 testing site, as needed. All patrons actively participating in senior center programming who subject themselves to a COVID-19 test, whether independently or at the recommendation of the City of Gahanna, will be required to submit those results to the ODH.

Entry to Facility

- Patrons should enter and exit through the main entrance door, only. Doors will be held open with door stops, when appropriate, to reduce touching of doors and door handles.
- Patrons must check in one-by-one at the entry foyer when they arrive.

- Decals on the floor will mark where patrons may stand to wait to ensure social distancing of at least 6 feet.
- Signs shall be posted requiring safe distancing, face coverings and screening questions.
- **Only patrons who have pre-registered for programs and have passed a COVID-19 assessment will be permitted entry into the GSC.**
 - Prior to entering the facility, activity instructors and patrons shall meet a staff member in the entryway for a pre-screening assessment. Cones and signage will indicate where guests may wait their turn to ensure appropriate spacing between individuals. Staff will use the “Health Screening Questions for Use with Customers” in order to determine eligibility to enter the facility.
 - Only guests who answer “no” to both questions regarding symptoms and known exposure will be permitted entry.
 - The GSC will maintain a daily log that tracks the attendance of each participant and includes telephone number and address. Logs will be made available upon request to participants, visitors, and the ODH. Logs will be maintained for a minimum of six months.
- In compliance with the Director’s Order, the GSC reserves the right to deny entry to:
 - Participants who are unable to wear masks.
 - Participants who are considered to be a risk to others.

Masks, PPE & Hand Sanitation

- All patrons and staff will be required to wear a facemask that covers the nose and mouth when entering the building, during programs and when walking hallways and restroom areas. *As per the requirement issued by ODH, there are NO exceptions to wearing masks during fitness activities or due to medical inability. Masks may be removed during meals when patrons are seated and eating, provided that the Dine Safe Ohio guidelines are followed.* A mask or face covering is NOT a substitute for social distancing.
- Upon entering the facility, patrons should immediately wash or sanitize their hands. Hands should be washed often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing, sneezing or using the restroom. If soap and water are not readily available, a hand sanitizer that contains greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol should be used. City staff will make hand sanitizer available at the front entry and throughout the building.
- Patrons should avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth and wash their hands after touching their face.
- Gloves: Washing your hands is considered the best practice for common everyday tasks. Because gloves are not frequently changed, they are not recommended while attending programs. The exception is custodians and staff who are sanitizing public areas and must wear gloves while cleaning.

Cleaning

- High touch areas such as doors and handles will require daily cleaning and frequent sanitation.
 - Custodial staff will clean the building and sanitize high touch areas at the end of the days that activities take place.
 - GSC staff will sanitize high touch areas such as door handles, counters and restrooms at intervals throughout the day (approximately every 2 hours – subject to adjustment in frequency, as needed).
 - Spaces including tables/chairs designated for individual patron’s use will be sanitized between uses.

Set-Up of Facility

The Gahanna Senior Center is comprised of 3 general meeting areas and an office.

The art room will remain closed for group gathering (e.g. ceramics group). We may schedule “studio hours” where patrons can sign-up for individual time slots to come to the center and work on art projects.

The partition between the “front” and “middle” rooms will remain open, to allow for appropriate distancing. Only one activity will occur in this space, at a time.

Patrons will be permitted to enter the office only during scheduled “office hours.” Patrons will be limited to one at a time and will remain appropriately distanced from any staff working in the space.

Capacity & Distancing

- In accordance with the Director’s Order on the Opening of Adult Day Care Services and Senior Centers, facilities shall limit capacity to ensure compliance with all Safe Distancing Requirements in the Order and shall be defined within the discretion of the facility.
- Capacity will be limited based on the nature of the activity.
 - No activity will permit a capacity of more than 50% of the maximum occupancy.
 - Capacity will be limited to an appropriate number to ensure that 6 foot distance may be kept between individuals. For this reason, fitness activities where participants move within a designated space may have a lower capacity than activities where patrons are stationary.
- GSC staff and instructors/contractors will set-up and tear down any tables, chairs or other equipment to be used during a program or activity.
- GSC staff and instructors/contractors will indicated designated spaces for patrons, based on the nature of the activity. Participant “spaces” will be identified through the use of tables, chairs or grids taped on the floor, as appropriate for the activity.
- All equipment/space will be sanitized after each use using an approved disinfectant.

Congregate Activities

- Appointments/sign-ups for activities are required, in advance. Patrons should register by calling the GSC at 614.342.4265. In addition to regularly scheduled activities, the senior center will offer time slots for patrons to come to the center to register for activities, in person.
- Field trips, excursions and large-group events are prohibited.
- Activities will be cancelled if there is no way to maintain six feet social distance.
- Participants shall enter the building no more than 10 minutes prior to the activity in which they are participating.
- Any dining activities shall follow the COVID-19 protocols as established by the state for Restaurants, Bars, and Banquet & Catering Facilities/Services Guidance. In addition:
 - Visual six-foot ground markings will be placed to show proper distance for participants in line.
 - Dining or seating areas will be positioned to ensure at least six feet between parties.
 - Self-service buffets and product samples are prohibited; self-service beverage is permitted.
 - Condiments shall be placed on the food item by staff or offered in individual packets or containers.
 - Schedules may be altered to reduced contact (e.g. stagger meal, activity, arrival/departure times).
- Activities will be staggered to allow a minimum of 30 minutes between groups to allow time for sanitation.

Rentals and Community Groups

The Gahanna Senior Center will be closed indefinitely to rentals and community group meetings, to limit outside users within the space. The one exception will be use of the facility as a polling location on Tuesday, November 3. The center will be closed to all senior activities on November 3 and November 4, in order to allow time for enhanced cleaning and disinfection of the space prior to resuming normal activities. Scheduled activities are expected to resume on November 5.

Confirmed Case

The GSC is subject to closure in the event of a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 in GSC staff, instructors/contractors or patrons.

In the event of a confirmed case, the GSC will:

- Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms while at the facility. The “art room” will be reserved for the purpose of isolating an individual who becomes ill.
- Shut down for deep sanitation.
- Work with FCPH to identify potentially infected or exposed individuals to help facilitate effective contact tracing/notifications.
- If possible, test all suspected infections or exposures.