

Loudoun County, Virginia

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NEWS RELEASE

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PRCS Outdoor Programs Canceled, Outdoor Pools Closed June 8

The Loudoun County Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) has canceled all outdoor programs and activities scheduled for Thursday, June 8, 2023, due to the Code Purple Air Quality Alert issued for Northern Virginia and the greater metropolitan Washington, D.C. region.

All athletic fields, outdoor pools and spray pads will be closed on June 8, 2023. Residents should postpone visits to Loudoun County parks, playgrounds and other PRCS outdoor facilities due to the unhealthy air quality, caused by the smoke from wildfires in Canada.

Loudoun PRCS indoor programs provided at indoor spaces will continue as scheduled.

Loudoun PRCS regrets any inconvenience, but the safety of Loudoun County residents is of the utmost importance.

Air Quality Alert

A Code Purple Air Quality Alert indicates very unhealthy air conditions for the entire public, not just those with respiratory illnesses. Health officials recommend these precautions:

- For sensitive groups, including children, older adults and people with heart or lung disease: Avoid all physical activity outdoors. Reschedule to a time when air quality is better or move activities indoors.
- For everyone else: Avoid long or intense activities. Consider rescheduling or moving activities indoors.

More information about protecting yourself against the impacts of smoke, visit the <u>Centers</u> for Disease Control and Prevention website.

Air Quality Forecasts

Residents can protect themselves by knowing the Air Quality Index for their area. Local air quality forecasts are available from:

- <u>AirNow</u> a partnership of several U.S. government agencies.
- Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

For More Information

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More information and links to resources about air quality are posted at loudoun.gov/airquality. Find the latest information about PRCS programs at loudoun.gov/PRCS.