AMES, Iowa – The City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department, working in collaboration with the Ames Community School District, will begin closing playgrounds at local parks and schools beginning today due to concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic. Signs are being installed at the locations, but there will be no tape or fencing surrounding the playground.

Closing playgrounds reinforces the City of Ames and Ames Community School District’s commitment to protecting the health and safety of our citizens. Residents are asked to do their part to keep family, friends, neighbors, and our community safe.

City of Ames parks and trails remain open to the public for recreation options. All park restrooms remain closed, and water fountains are turned off. The Ames Dog Park is closed. The Georgie Tsushima Memorial Skate Park, along with any tennis, pickleball, and basketball courts in each park, will remain open at this time.

While visiting any public space, users should exercise their best judgment and act responsibly. It is recommended users bring their own sanitizing supplies and adhere to recommended guidelines of keeping social gatherings to fewer than 10 people. Observe social distancing standards and stay home if you do not feel well or have a temperature. Visit www.CityOfAmes.org/COVID19 or www.ames.k12.ia.us/district/district/coronavirus-information for additional information.

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