



Visiting the City's Beaches May 14, 2020

Are City beaches open?

City beaches are open for active recreational use during normal beach hours (6 a.m. to 10 p.m.), 7 days a week.

What are examples of active recreational use?

Walking, running, hiking, swimming, surfing, bodysurfing, boogie boarding, kite surfing, paddle boarding, skim boarding, kayaking, fishing and similar recreational activities that keeps individuals in non-stationary, active motion.

What is not permitted on the beach or in the ocean?

Passive games, loitering, sunbathing and similar, stationary activities. Gatherings of people (even if engaged in active recreation) outside of those within their immediate household are not permitted. Coolers, umbrellas, beach blankets and towels are also not allowed.

Can individuals who are unable to sustain active recreation still visit the beach? Did the City maintain ADA access to the beach, including handicapped parking spaces?

The City recognizes that seniors, people with disabilities and people caring for young children cannot always be engaged in an active recreational use while using the City's beaches. In accordance with the beach access plan approved by the State of California, please know that the City and its employees are dedicated to working with the public to help accommodate individual circumstances.

Further, though beach parking lots are closed, handicapped spaces remain available on a first-come, first-served basis in the McFadden Square parking lot (at the base of Newport Pier) and in the City parking lot at 32nd and Newport Blvd.

What is expected in terms of social distancing?

At all times, beach goers and ocean users must maintain at least a six-foot-separation from those that are not part of their immediate households. In alignment with CDC, State and County public health guidance, the City strongly recommends the use of face coverings when you are out in public.

Is the Oceanfront Boardwalk open?

The boardwalk adjacent to the ocean beach on the Balboa Peninsula is open, in keeping with the “active recreational use” of the beaches.

Is there beach parking?

The City is taking a phased approach to reopening beach parking lots, beginning with smaller parking lots. Additional beach amenities (parking lots, piers) will reopen slowly over the next few days and weeks.

Is Newport Harbor open?

Newport Harbor remains open for all normally allowed water activities.

What rules are in place for the beach and recreational spaces?

As with all public spaces, the City of Newport Beach recommends that all people (1) stay close to home when you get outdoors, (2) not drive to parks or beaches, (3) venture out only with people in your immediate household, (4) actively walk, jog or bike in your neighborhood or local parks that remain open, (5) always maintain a social/ physical distance of 6 feet or more when recreating in the outdoors, and (6) leave public space if you cannot maintain social/ physical distancing.