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**Subject:** COVID-19 Update: Outdoor Rec Opportunities  
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*Nadine Woodward*

## The City of Spokane **COVID-19 News Update for April 27**

*Information about Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.*

### **Some Outdoor Recreation to Resume on May 5**

Today, [Washington Governor Jay Inslee today announced](#) that starting May 5, many state parks, state lands, and boat launches would re-open for day use. Additionally, golf courses would be allowed to re-open, and hunting and fishing seasons would open, as seasonally appropriate, also on May 5.

As outdoor recreation reopens, people will still have to observe social-distancing measures. Golfers will have to play in two-somes, not four-somes, unless all four golfers live in the same household. People going boating together should also live in the same household. State camp sites will remain closed for the time being. Recreational fishing on the Pacific Coast will also remain closed.

### **Check out the List of Street Maintenance Projects Planned**

The City of Spokane [has identified about 30 additional lane miles of street maintenance work](#) that will be completed in 2020 and 2021 as a result of an additional \$10 million in street investment planned to aid the community's economic recovery. The new projects will double the lane miles that will receive maintenance work during these two years.

Mayor Nadine Woodward noted that the good-paying construction jobs will be critical as we work toward recovery. Plans for the additional investment were announced on April 15, along with the start of the 2020 construction season and its \$70 million in public infrastructure construction work.

Additional grind and overlay and chip seal work will be contracted out to the private sector and will complement the work already planned for 2020 and 2021 by the Street Department. Street Department crews expected to complete another 29 miles of grind and overlay projects during those two years. Work is spread throughout the City, improving conditions for all users of the street system.

### **Virtual Storytime, Utility Bills & Addressing Crime**

Our City organization and City employees are working to keep our community engaged and safe. Here's a look at some things that are happening.

- As we continue to look for ways to keep our kids learning during the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order, here’s a new offering from the Spokane Public Library. The Library will offer “Virtual Storytime” every weekday at 10 a.m. on their [Facebook page](#).
- We reached a milestone over the weekend, [achieving our fund-raising goal](#) to assist community members with their energy bills and City utility bills. Citizens donated \$50,000 to this effort with matching funds by the City and Avista raising the total to \$150,000.
- The Spokane Police Department is working to help reduce property crime at vacant businesses and in neighborhoods. Here’s one of their [public service announcements](#) highlighting that work and telling citizens how they can help.

## More Help to Cope during this Stressful Time

*Here are some more resources from our Employee Assistance Program:*

- **Six Meditation Apps to Help You Remain Calm**  
COVID-19 has displaced a lot of people's way of life, from their job to daily routine. In this current situation, it is essential to try to stay calm. Meditation has become a popular activity that some individuals have turned to during this stressful event to help them remain balanced.
- **Back by popular Demand**, more **Aware Live Mindfulness Sessions** are available this week. These sessions are facilitated by an Aware (mindfulness) specialist designed to help you engage in a 10-minute mindfulness exercise that will help you focus, release tension, and reset for improved wellbeing. Log in to [EAPHelpLink.com](#), enter your **Company Code: CITSP0**, and check out the **Online Seminars “Mindfulness Session.”**

To access more topics related to COVID-19 visit: [www.EAPHelpLink.com](http://www.EAPHelpLink.com), using company code: **CITSP0**

## Employee Information Portal (<https://covid19.spokanecity.org/>)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what’s happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.