



**COVID-19 Public Health  
GUIDANCE FOR BLOCK PARTIES**

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Pursuant to Village of Oak Park Resolution 20-120 dated March 13, 2020, the Oak Park Village Board declared an emergency affecting the public health due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease pursuant to Section 8-10-5 of the Illinois Municipal Code, 65 ILCS 5/8-10-5, and Sections 2-6-10, 2-27-9 and 20-1-6(Z) of the Oak Park Village Code through April 6, 2020. Said emergency was extended or reinstated as follows: (1) through May 5, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-124; through June 1, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-128 dated April 27, 2020; (2) reinstated on July 27, 2020 through September 14, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-184; (3) reinstated on November 2, 2020 by Village Resolution 20-232 through February 16, 2021; and (4) extended on January 19, 2021 by Village Resolution 20-43 through June 15, 2021. Pursuant to these resolutions and Section 20-1-6(BB) of the Oak Park Village Code, which was adopted by the Village Board on January 19, 2021 by Ordinance 21-8, the Village's Public Health Director has the authority to make "reasonable rules, regulations and orders . . . as may from time to time be deemed necessary . . . due to the outbreak of COVID-19 disease in the State of Illinois" through June 15, 2021.

**GUIDANCE**

The Village of Park ("Village") encourages block parties as a way to build community spirit, meet neighbors and have fun. As the State of Illinois is currently in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan, the Village will accept petitions from residents to hold block parties beginning May 1, 2021.

1. During Phase 4 of Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker's Restore Illinois plan, block parties are intended only for household or family members of the residential dwellings located on a Village block. The more people an individual interacts with at a gathering and the longer that interaction lasts, the higher the potential risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 and COVID-19 spreading.
2. People shall stay home and not participate in a block party if they:
  - Show COVID-19 symptoms.
  - Have tested positive for COVID-19 and are still within a required isolation period.

- Have been in close contact with someone infected with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
3. Tables and chairs should be set up at least six (6) feet apart.
  4. Participants should maintain a six (6) foot distance from each other.
  5. Face coverings should be worn by participants at all times during the block party. Face coverings may be removed to eat or drink. Participants should maintain a six (6) foot distance from non-immediate household members when eating or drinking.
  6. Participants who are not from the same household should not share foods and/or beverages during the block party. Self-service of shared foods, including hot bars, cold bars, and buffets is discouraged. Pot-luck style food sharing, where each participant brings a food dish to share with other participants is discouraged.
  7. Tables, chairs or frequently touched surfaces should be disinfected several times during the block party using guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) which can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>.
  8. The use of single-use plates, utensils and napkins are encouraged.
  9. If condiments are provided, single-use packet condiments are encouraged.
  10. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content should be made available for participants' use. The use of temporary hand-washing stations with water, soap and paper towels for washing hands is encouraged.
  11. Petting zoos and/or bouncy houses are prohibited.

For general questions about COVID-19 and Illinois' response and guidance, please call the Illinois Department of Public Health at 1-800-889-3931 or email [DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV](mailto:DPH.SICK@ILLINOIS.GOV). Further information can be found at the following web links:

- [Village of Oak Park COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: How to Protect Yourself](#)
- [Illinois Department of Public Health](#)

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