



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chipley Park in DeFuniak Springs Remains Open *City Makes Exception to Park Closure Rule*

DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, Fla. – Chipley Park in DeFuniak Springs will remain open for public use despite all other city-owned parks remaining closed during the COVID-19 outbreak. The public restrooms at Chipley Park will remain closed. City officials advise all citizens to continue to practice social distancing while walking on sidewalks or accessing Lake DeFuniak through the boat ramp.

“We’re making an exception to the City-Owned Park Closure Rule” says City Manager Mell Smigielski “only because Chipley Park is uniquely designed and integrated into a large, ungated neighborhood where residents must use the park to get to their homes on Circle Drive. Also, we recognize from health officials that some sort of outdoor exposure in such a large park is important for everyone’s mental health during this stressful time. If we continue to maintain a safe distance from one another and refrain from allowing any congregating at the amphitheater or throughout the park, we will be practicing safe procedures as provided by national, state and local health officials.”

City officials advise all citizens that park amenities such as swing sets, slides, and hand railings are NOT sanitized and should NOT be used at this time. Restrooms will remain closed at the park due to the same concerns and lack of available paper towels and toilet paper.

City officials and staff take the COVID-19 outbreak seriously. Announcements to any change in city services or events will be provided through media releases, on the City’s website at www.DeFuniakSprings.net and on the City of DeFuniak Springs Facebook page. Citizens may also call DeFuniak Springs City Hall at (850) 892-8500 during normal business hours.

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