

# NASSIF AQUATIC CENTER

## SUMMER 2020 STATEMENT

As COVID-19 continues to evolve and impact the way we all go about everyday life, Warrensburg Parks & Recreation (WPR) has been faced with making some tough decisions while dealing with an uncertain future. Each City and County have different rules and regulations, based on recommendations from their health department. We understand that Nassif Aquatic Center (NAC) is an integral part of summers in Warrensburg, and not opening Nassif was certainly a decision we never thought we would have to make. Because there are a few pools around us opening, we wanted to share the three prongs to our decision not to open Nassif: **Safety and Social Distancing, Social Equity, and Fiscal Responsibility.**

Our first priority was **Safety** for our staff and patrons. This is a direct statement from the CDC:

*Don't: Use playgrounds. Do not use playgrounds, including water playgrounds, located within local, state, or national parks.*

*Using playgrounds might lead to the spread of COVID-19 because:*

- *They are often crowded and could easily exceed recommended guidance for gatherings.*
- *It can be challenging to keep surfaces clean and disinfected.*
- *The virus can spread when young children touch contaminated equipment and then touch their hands to their eyes, nose, or mouth. They also recommend practicing social distancing and avoiding large gatherings.*

With that guidance, and the recommendation of social distancing and gathering sizes, we felt we would have to close the upper deck of Nassif if we did open. That would have only left the lap pool and dive well available for use. That drastically reduces the number of people who would be able to use and enjoy Nassif this summer. Keep in mind that these are total facility numbers, so we have to include all staff working in the occupancy numbers, which would lower the number of guests we could have.

Currently, and when the decision was made to not open Nassif, the capacity limit is 25% of normal occupancy. This is the language, taken from the State of Missouri Show Me Reopening Plan, we used to make the determination of how many people could be at Nassif:

*Must limit the number of individuals in any particular retail location to the following standards based on entity's authorized fire or building code occupancy:*

*Twenty-five (25) percent or less of the entity's authorized occupancy for retail locations with square footage of less than ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>);*

*Ten (10) percent or less of the entity's authorized occupancy retail locations with square footage of ten thousand square feet (10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>) or more.*

*Businesses that are engaged in retail sales to the public, not subject to fire or building code occupancy limitations, should calculate occupancy limits on the following formula:*

*For a business with a retail location less than 10,000 square feet:*

*Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient*

*Quotient x 0.25 = Occupancy Limit*

*(Example: An 8,000 square foot retail store would be able to have 66 customers in the store at any one time)*

*For a business with a retail location of 10,000 square feet or more:*

*Building Square Feet divided by 30 = Quotient*

*Quotient x 0.10 = Occupancy Limit*

*(Example: A 40,000 square foot grocery store would be able to have 133 customers in the store at any one time.)*

*Continue to apply social distancing in all facilities.*

*Sanitize frequently and between customers.*

*Separate chairs in waiting rooms to 6 ft from each other, or, if feasible, implement a system where patrons can wait inside their vehicle prior to entering the business with pre-scheduled appointments.*

We looked at two different ways to calculate occupancy, to try to open Nassif this summer. When thinking of these numbers, we also took guidance from the CDC, Johnson County Community Health Services, and National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

We first looked at the individual pools and bather load, at the 25% capacity. The bather load numbers were given to us by our pool management company, Midwest Pool Management (MPM). With the restrictions on playgrounds, high touch areas, and splash pads, this would mean closing the Splash Pad and Lazy River, leaving only 72.25 available guest capacity for the lower deck and pool.

	<b>Sq Ft</b>	<b>Bather Load</b>	<b>25% Capacity</b>
Splash Pad	2,434	147	36.75
Lazy River	4,941	329	82.25
Lap Lanes	3,670	245	61.25
Dive Well	1,412	44	11

We also looked at the 10% rule. We did the equation for both the entire facility, and just the lower deck. The chart below depicts what our occupancy rates would have allowed at that percent.

Retail Sales Capacity Phase 2			
	Sq Ft	Quotient	Occupancy Limit
<b>Nassif</b>	50000	1667	167
<b>Nassif (lower deck)</b>	24843	828	83

The second factor to our decision was **Social Equity**. One of National Recreation And Park Association’s (NRPA) Three Pillars is Social Equity. This is what NRPA has to say about Social Equity, *“True to the very philosophy of public parks and recreation is the idea that all people – no matter the color of their skin, age, income level or ability – have access to programs, facilities, places and spaces that make their lives and communities great. Parks and recreation truly build communities – communities for all.”* By limiting the number of users at Nassif or only allowing season pass holders to use the pool, we felt that we would not be upholding the Social Equity pillar and our commitment to equal and fair access to everyone.

Finally, our third reason was that we did not feel it was **Fiscally Responsible** to open under current conditions. Based on capacity limits, we would only be able to accommodate 25% of our normal capacity. Last summer we sold 741 season passes and 15,675 day passes. Those numbers don’t include punch pass, twilight swim, or any free events. Total 2019 revenue at Nassif only covered 33% of the total operating expenses.

As previously mentioned, we contract an outside company, MPM, to staff and manage our lifeguards and maintain our pools. This summer it would have cost over \$161,000 to have them manage just Nassif. That does not include WPR staff that manage the front desk and concessions. Those costs would be approximately \$28,000 for the 2020 summer season. Concessions supply costs would be approximately \$10,000. Water and electric costs combined last year were \$30,925. The debt payment for 2020 is \$179,038. (The pool will not be paid off until 2033). These costs do not include additional cleaning supplies or unforeseen expenses. Last year, we grossed just over \$136,000 in pool revenue (that includes season passes, punch passes, daily admission, and rentals). With the limited capacity, we did not feel we would be able open the pool and remain fiscally responsible.

Nassif	
Midwest Pool Management Estimated	\$ 161,000.00
WPR Staff	\$ 28,000.00
Concessions Supplies	\$ 10,000.00
Water and Electric Bills	\$ 30,925.00
Debt Payment	\$ 179,038.00
2019 Total Expenses	\$ 408,963.00
2019 Revenue	\$ 136,805.00
2019 Net Revenue	\$ (272,158.00)

We know how important our parks, pools, ballfields and facilities are to our community, and we appreciate your understanding and support as we go through this ever-changing process. Please realize that we take these measures for the health and well-being of everyone, including the most vulnerable of our neighbors and community members.

We are pleased to announce that we are reopening the Warrensburg Community Center (WCC), along with the Fitness Center and Indoor Pool for lap swimming only, on June 15 as part of our Phase 1 Reopening Plan. The full WCC Phase 1 Reopening Plan, which includes sanitation protocols and social distancing requirements, is available online at [www.warrensburg-mo.com/160/Parks-Recreation](http://www.warrensburg-mo.com/160/Parks-Recreation).

Follow WPR on social media for the most up-to-date information. COVID-19 updates can be found online at [www.warrensburg-mo.com](http://www.warrensburg-mo.com) and at [www.johnsoncountyhealth.org/news/covid-19-information](http://www.johnsoncountyhealth.org/news/covid-19-information)