



Press Release

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**COVID-19 UPDATE:
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICER ISSUES NEW ORDER APRIL 23
CITY OF CHINO HILLS RE-OPENS TRAILS APRIL 25**

Chino Hills, CA – The City of Chino Hills announced that the City’s 48 miles of trails would re-open to the public on Saturday, April 25 with strict guidance that social distancing requirements must be followed and face coverings be used, to continue efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

“We know how important our trails are to the community,” said Mayor Art Bennett. “Based on the April 23 County Health Officer’s Orders, the trails will re-open. Signage posted will reinforce that trail users are required to keep at least six feet of social distance away from anyone not in their household, and have face coverings ready to put on when they come across others along the way, regardless of social distancing.”

According to the Mayor, the City closed the trails on April 1, and reviewed the decision weekly against new data coming in, including County and State recommendations, and Health Officer Orders.

“Social distancing is working,” said Mayor Bennett. “If our monitoring of activity on the trails reveals trail users are gathering in groups larger than their households, or are not following social distancing requirements, we will have to consider taking steps to reduce use, prevent gathering, and achieve social distancing again to prevent the spread of the virus.”

The Mayor warned that the statewide Stay-At-Home Order is still in effect but officials recognize that it is important for residents to have time outdoors. “This isn’t a time to call your friends and meet on the trail – it is really important to keep that six feet of distance, and face coverings are required regardless of social distance, around people who aren’t part of your household,” he said. “Wearing a face covering is not required if you are exercising or walking alone, or with members of your household. Face coverings are required, regardless of social distancing, around people who are not part of your household.”

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San Bernardino County announced on April 22 that they planned to reopen certain recreation facilities including County parks, rivers, lakes, and recreation areas to limited activities for passive recreation starting April 25, while carefully following the rules mandated by the state to help limit the spread of coronavirus. According to the County’s FAQs, passive recreation means individuals may enjoy wildlife observation, walking, hiking, etc., alone or with members of their household.

“We thank our residents for diligently following health guidelines to protect themselves, their family, and their community from COVID-19,” said City Manager Ben Montgomery. “Park monitors and our Chino Hills Police Department bike patrol will be out in the parks and trails to help inform the public about COVID-19 guidelines and best practices.”

Visit the City website for official information from the City of Chino Hills, www.chinohills.org/Coronavirus. In addition, the public may send questions to ChinoHillsCovid19@chinohills.org or call (909) 364-2610.

Visit www.sbcovid19.com for the County of San Bernardino’s expanded and enhanced COVID-19 dashboard that features additional data to help evaluate progress in responding to the coronavirus outbreak. The new data provides a much better understanding of how the virus impacts the community and offers more accurate breakdowns by race, ethnicity, age, geography and other factors. It includes greater detail on testing results.

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