

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWNSHIP PARKS REMAIN CLOSED

Grand Haven Township, Michigan, April 3, 2014.

Grand Haven Charter Township announced that the Township parks will not open until Monday, April 14th, at the earliest.

“Normally, the parks open on April 1st of each year,” Public Services Director Mark VerBerkmoes noted. “The weather usually cooperates so that staff can get into each park and clean up any debris or other obstructions that have occurred, making the parks safe for users before they open,” VerBerkmoes continued. “This year is an exception. The snow and ice remains on much of the driveways and common areas, making it impossible to see what obstructions exist. Moreover, much of the snow on the roadways and trails is frozen, making these areas unsafe for normal use,” VerBerkmoes said.

In talking with the North Ottawa Recreation Authority (NORA) and other area communities, it was determined to be prudent that the Township keep the parks closed until the areas can be made safe

and passable. In addition, the playfields are saturated with water, making the fields susceptible to damage if used for soccer, softball, etc. And, of course, this saturation will continue as the remainder of the snow/ice melts.

It was decided to postpone opening the parks until at least April 14th with the expectation that the snow and ice will be melted and that staff will have time to clean the areas. In addition, NORA is hopeful the playfields will dry by the 14th, also.

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