



POLICY UPDATE

March 31, 2020

AMO COVID-19 Update: Ontario Extends COVID-19 Emergency and Closes Outdoor Recreational Amenities

On March 30, 2020 Ontario Premier Doug Ford [announced](#) that the Province had extended the March 17 Emergency Declaration under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. Emergency declarations under the Act are for two weeks with two-week extensions. Extended also are all associated orders including the closure of non-essential workplaces and limiting social gatherings greater than five people.

In announcing the declaration, the Premier announced new orders to close outdoor recreational amenities such as sports fields, playgrounds, basketball courts, picnic areas, park shelters, community and condo gardens, and others. The order builds on local municipal government action and makes it consistent across Ontario.

Green spaces in parks, trails and ravines can remain open for pass-through access, but visitors must continue to practice social/physical distancing. Enforcement of these closure orders can be carried out at the discretion of municipal by-law officers.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources page](#) is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6
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