



NEWS RELEASE

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CITY OF COVINGTON CANCELS SUMMER EVENTS THROUGH AUGUST 31

Covington, WA – As a result of continued concerns and the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, the City of Covington announced the cancellation of all summer events through Aug. 31 including the Covington Days Festival, Summer Concert Series, Covington KidsFest, Outdoor Family Concert, Sausage & CiderFest, and the Outdoor Family Movie.

The City's goal is to ensure the safety of all participants and holding large group events isn't prudent to continue to slow the spread of COVID-19 and it is unknown what may jeopardize the community's progress in preventing any additional outbreaks. Additionally, the dates for the state's phased reopening remain fluid and the exact dates when large group gatherings will again be allowed is unclear.

"While these events are still a couple months away, the planning and preparation required for these events require us to make this decision now," said Covington Parks and Recreation Director Ethan Newton. "We know the community, and our staff, take great pride in these events, so it is a difficult decision to make."

As the future of the economy and the effects of the pandemic on businesses, sponsors, donors, and community vendors remains unclear, it may also affect the participation needed to ensure the success of the city's events. The City also faces specific challenges in preparation and planning of summer events after implementing a 50 percent staff reduction due to the Stay Home Orders issued by the governor.

In addition to the canceled events, registration for athletics, recreation and aquatics programs, as well as room and shelter rentals, remain on hold for the summer season. These programs will restart as soon as it is determined safe to do so.

A list of the city's events can be viewed at www.covingtonwa.gov/events. Updates regarding COVID-19 and its effects on city operations, parks and recreation programs and more can be found at www.covingtonwa.gov/alert_detail.php.

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