

Contact Information:

**City of Athens Art, Parks and Recreation Department**  
**Terri Moore, Director**

**Arts, Parks and Recreation Department Announces Postponement of Summer Camp**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Athens, Ohio – Arts, Parks and Recreation Department** is announcing a delay to the start of the summer camp program until July.

The City of Athens Arts, Parks and Recreation Department has made the decision to delay the start of summer camp until the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>. After consultation with state, and local experts in the fields of recreation and public health, and thoughtful discussion we've decided to postpone rather than cancel the program, as we continue to monitor state orders and decisions. Our commitment to the health and safety of our campers, our staff and the entire community is our top priority.

The department is hopeful to be able to consider holding summer camp in July in some capacity, although it may need to look different from the traditional day camp experience - with social distancing requirements but still allowing kids to safely reconnect.

We believe that connecting and being outside matters! Staff is working on developing best practices and "safe outdoor" opportunities, while working through potential impacts on our camp programs and determining how we may be able to modify as needed. Once the governor says that summer camps can open, we then have to make sure camp will be safe for our campers and our staff.

More details will be provided as we get more information on opening summer camp from public health officials and the Governor's office. As is stands, the Governor's 'Safer at Home' order is extended until May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Registration for summer camp is closed. All registered participants will be contacted by Laura Sowers, Program Specialist. For more information please contact at [lsowers@ci.athens.oh.us](mailto:lsowers@ci.athens.oh.us).