



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of McAllen Parks & Recreation Launches McAllen Parks Unplugged

As the community works to navigate the ever-changing effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), so has the team of the McAllen Parks & Recreation Department.

“When it was determined that programming was to be suspended and would affect the countless participants and visitors to our community centers, pools, and athletic fields- employees began conversations on how to continue to engage with our friends whom we welcome through our doors and gates daily,” said Mike Hernandez, McAllen Parks & Recreation Department Director.

The McAllen Parks & Recreation Department team has created McAllen Parks Unplugged to provide families who are working, studying, and spending their free time at home with the opportunity to connect with the department and each other through a video series featuring McAllen program instructors and shared videos from parks & recreation departments from across the state and country.

Each video, written, filmed, and edited by parks & recreation staff, gives easy step-by-step instructions and demonstrations in a wide range of activities from *folklorico*, guitar, crafts for kids, and more. Beginning Tuesday, March 24, 2020, at 3:00 p.m., the public can view the videos on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube by searching McAllenParks. The videos will also be available for viewing on the department’s website McAllenParks.net. In addition to the videos in the series, at home project activities will be shared on-line for breaks from academics as students navigate schooling from home.

McAllen Parks Unplugged is a free online resource that will allow for parks & recreation staff to continue to engage with those participants that will not be attending programs at McAllen Community Centers and all who are practicing social distancing to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the coming weeks.

McAllen parks and trails will remain open to the public. The McAllen Parks & Recreation Department will continue to provide updates on its social media platforms and website McAllenParks.net.

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