



**Bernards Township Parks & Recreation
One Collyer Lane
Basking Ridge, New Jersey 07920**

Phone: 908-204-3003 Fax: 908-766-1941

Notice Regarding Athletic Field Closures

The Department of Parks and Recreation and the Grounds Division of the Department of Public Works determines field status on a daily basis.

During field inspections, several factors are considered:

- safety
- weather (past, present and future)
- future playability
- type of field & type of use
- field history (drainage, recovery, damage)

All the above factors are taken into account when assessing overall field conditions, with participant safety as our number one priority and with future playability in mind. Fields are in use spring through fall, for a variety of different sports by over 3,500 participants. It is important to ensure that fields will be playable for future seasons for participants of all sports.

Field closings may be determined at any time, as conditions change. However, generally field closings are called by 12PM weekdays, earlier if possible. Weekend closings may be determined on Friday afternoons or Saturday/Sunday mornings. Fields are assessed individually and in certain cases some may be posted as open while other fields are listed as closed. In the event of an unexpected afternoon shower/thunderstorm when fields are open, it is up to each individual sports organization to use their best judgment and decide whether or not to cancel a scheduled practice or game.

Closing or opening notices remain in effect until an updated notice is sent. Youth Sports Organizations are sent status updates directly by email and distribute the information amongst their participants. For instructions on how to receive Athletic Field Closing Notices via email direct from Parks & Recreation – [Click Here](#) (or proceed to page 2 if viewing this letter from our website.) Closing notices will be posted to the Township Calendar on www.bernards.org and are visible under the “Upcoming Events” column on our homepage.

The Department of Parks & Recreation is very sensitive to the effects field closures have on all youth sports organizations schedules and we do not take the decision lightly.

We appreciate the cooperation and understanding of all youth sports organizations board members, coaches, parents and participants with regards to field closures as we work to continue to provide safe, well maintained facilities for all Township residents.

Thank you,

Jennifer Gander
Director, Parks & Recreation



Are the fields open?



Sign up to receive

Athletic Field Closing Notices

www.bernards.org



CLICK GO
And select the
**Athletic Field
Closing
Notices**
Mailing list

Important Information About Athletic Field Closings:

- These field closing notices include Township Athletic Fields only, not fields located on Board of Education property. *Park Fields, Astor Fields & the War Memorial Complex are Township Fields. The Varsity Complex and individual school fields are Board of Education Fields.*
- **Field closings may be determined at any time, as conditions change.** However, generally field closings are called by 12PM weekdays, earlier if possible. Weekend closings may be determined on Friday afternoons or Saturday mornings by 7am or Sunday mornings by 10am.
- **Closing or opening notices remain in effect until an updated notice is sent. Notices may not be sent on a daily basis.**
- In the event of unexpected afternoon rain when fields are open, it is up to each individual sports organization to use their best judgment and decide whether or not to cancel a scheduled practice or game. If you see/hear lighting/thunder please exit the fields immediately and take shelter in your cars, with the windows rolled up, until the storm passes. It's usually safe after no thunder and no lightning have been observed for 30 minutes. Follow your organization's policies in regards to thunder/lightning.
- **Email to Mobile:** Depending on your mobile provider, you can sign up your cell phone number to receive a text message alert (i.e. 1234567@vtext.com). Text message rates will apply. You may not be able to read the entire email message if received by text.

WHEN IN DOUBT

CHECK THE TOWNSHIP WEBSITE, WWW.BERNARDS.ORG,
OR CHECK WITH YOUR SPORTS ORGANIZATION
FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE FIELD CONDITIONS.