

Parks and Recreation Sports Fields Update: April 15 - 21, 2019

OPEN *(*Please note: Inclement weather may cause rain delays)*

Playfair - most soccer nets installed, remainder will be installed this week.

Neighborhood Parks: Elm, Skyview, Pleasant View, 44 Ranch, White Pine, Northside, Duncan, Pineview. Soccer nets at Elm and Skyview to be installed 4/16.

CLOSED

FMRP natural grass fields

Maloney Ranch

Jeffrey

The only field open at FMRP will continue to be the Bella Vista Synthetic turf. Field time is limited due to demand. Call 552-6266 to reserve.

Natural turf fields will continue to be monitored for drainage, moisture, and soil temperature. We will make a determination on continued closure or opening dates and communicate as soon as we know. It is imperative that we allow the fields to come out of dormancy to allow for proper growth and sustained success throughout the season. Sports fields throughout the City are still saturated and muddy. Playing on fields under those conditions can permanently damage the turf and create an unsafe play surface.

A little patience and caution now helps ensure a long, safe playing season when the weather finally warms up. Parks and Recreation continually seeks to balance the needs of sports facility users with the long-term sustainability and safety of the resource. Thank you for communicating with your sports groups and for your understanding.

Precipitation Update from Missoula Valley Water Quality District

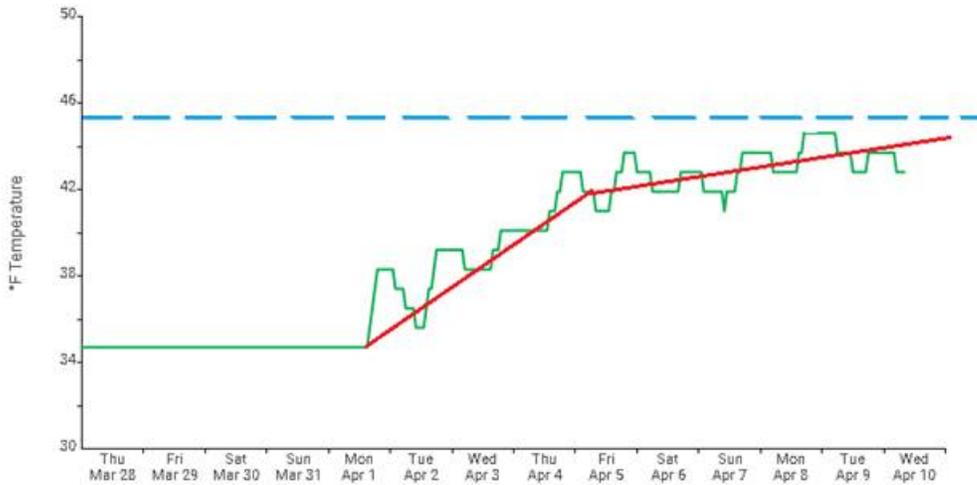
We are seeing flooding in the area. Missoula has had a record setting daily rainfall event this week (April 9) with 1.11 inches, approximately 1/10th annual average rainfall (14.13"). Over the course of 72 hours, Missoula surpassed April's average precipitation (1.22"). **Tight soils, a lot of rain, saturated ground, some frozen ground = a lot of water movement.** Rain on snow at some higher elevations likely increased meltwater runoff contributions to streams and storm water as well. [Learn more.](#)

FMRP Turf Fields

Missoula Parks & Recreation's sports field monitoring systems at Fort Missoula Regional Park indicate the average sports field soil temperatures are improving but not yet ready for play. Soil temperatures must remain at 45 degrees or above for an extended period for turf to come out of dormancy.

Soil temperature ranges are from 41 to 44 degrees, a 3-degree improvement since Monday but clearly the rate soil is warming up has slowed. It is possible soil temperature will reach the 45-degree mark next week.

FMRP Turf Fields (continued)



Soil moisture percentages have deteriorated in the last few days. Average percentage soil moisture is sitting at 31%. About 1/2 inch of water is present in the turf crown. Still too wet to aerate or stripe fields.

NOAA Missoula’s forecast suggests soil temperature and percent soil moisture is not likely to improve enough by the weekend to accommodate safe play conditions. The soil temperature trend suggests the sports fields could reach and stay above 45 degrees - perhaps as soon as next Monday or Tuesday.

Current conditions at
Missoula, Missoula International Airport (KMSO)
 Lat: 46.92083°N Lon: 114.0925°W Elev: 3199ft.

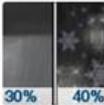
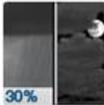
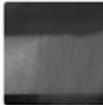


44°F
7°C

Humidity 73%
 Wind Speed NNW 5 MPH
 Barometer 30.05 in (1019.1 mb)
 Dewpoint 36°F (2°C)
 Visibility 10.00 mi
 Wind Chill 41°F (5°C)
 Last update 10 Apr 3:53 pm MDT

More Information:
[Local Forecast Office](#)
[More Local Wx](#)
[3 Day History](#)
[Mobile Weather](#)
[Hourly Weather Forecast](#)

Extended Forecast for
3 Miles W Missoula MT

This Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Thursday Night	Friday	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday
 80%	 50%	 50%	 30% 40%	 40% 50%	 30%	 20%		
High: 44 °F	Low: 31 °F	High: 45 °F	Low: 28 °F	High: 47 °F	Low: 29 °F	High: 50 °F	Low: 34 °F	High: 46 °F

For more information

Ryan Yearous, Sports & Wellness Recreation Supervisor

yearours@ci.missoula.mt.us, (406) 552-6266