



TOWN OF HOPE MILLS

Hope Mills Parks & Recreation

SPECIAL EVENT INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

The safety and welfare of all employees and special event participants is paramount to the Town of Hope Mills. This policy is designed to give guidance to staff, volunteers, participants and patrons when dealing with the forecast of inclement weather or immediate inclement weather. The Hope Mills Parks & Recreation Department and Hope Mills Emergency Services' judgement will be exercised in all inclement weather situations both before and during special events. Inclement

INCLEMENT WEATHER BEFORE A SPECIAL EVENT

The Town of Hope Mills Parks & Recreation Department (HMPRD), in conjunction with, the Town of Hope Mills Emergency Services (HMES), will monitor the weather forecast for the day of the event. If the forecast is calling for more than 70% chance of inclement weather (including heat indexes), during the time frame of the event, which includes vendor set-up, the event will be CANCELLED. In conjunction with the Town of Hope Mills Emergency Services, the HMPRD will cancel 3 hours prior to event, when possible.

INCLEMENT WEATHER DURING A SPECIAL EVENT

The HMPRD and HMES will continually monitor the weather and weather forecast throughout the duration of the event.

IF LIGHTENING AND/OR THUNDER OCCUR DURING EVENT:

- As a matter of safety and precaution, all activities/events must immediately stop if thunder is heard or lightening is seen.
- All volunteers, participants, and patrons are to seek shelter immediately. The Recreation Center is the primary location for shelter, however, shelters 1 and 2 can also serve as safe shelter. No exceptions.
- Mandatory 30 minutes wait from the last sound of thunder or sight of lightening will begin.
- If the weather clears, 30 minutes after last sound of thunder or sight of lightening, event may resume.

If the postponement or delay exceeds more than two hours (four, thirty-minute delays), the HMPRD and HMES will re-assess the current conditions and near future forecast. If the conditions persist, and/or the event site is deemed unsafe, HMPRD/HMES will cancel the event.

SPECIAL EVENT CANCELLATIONS

HMPRD reserves the right to cancel, postpone, or reschedule any Town of Hope Mills events. However, July 4th parade and Party in the Park, Ole Mill Days, and the Christmas Parade along with Festival of Lights are rain or shine events and will not be rescheduled, ***and refunds will not be issued.***

JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

In the event July 4th Party in the Park is cancelled due to inclement weather, a decision regarding fireworks will not be made until at least 1 hour prior to firework launch time. If the HMPRD/HMES determines the weather will not allow the town to safely set off the fireworks, the fireworks will be re-scheduled within the month of July.

COMMUNICATIONS

All HMPRD Special Event Weather updates will be posted on the Hope Mills Parks & Recreation Facebook Page.