Mayor's Update



Summer is here. With soaring temperatures expected, especially tomorrow, we're acutely aware of how difficult the heat and humidity are for many of us. On Monday at 3:00 p.m., it'll feel like it's 101 degrees outside.

Here's what we are doing to prepare and help:

We made sure all the air conditioners in the municipal buildings and schools are working.

The Newton Free Library is air conditioned, and a good place to go and get relief from the heat. The hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. at 5:00 p.m..

- The Senior Center at 345 Walnut Street is also air conditioned, and open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Cool off at the Gath Pool and Crystal Lake. We've already added extra staff in anticipation of more swimmers. Gath Pool is open this week for recreational swimming from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.. A complete schedule is here. Crystal Lake is open tomorrow through Friday from 3:00 p.m. to dusk. Summer weekday hours begin on Monday, June 25, which are 9:30 a.m. through dusk, and the beach opens at 1:00 p.m. on weekends. A complete schedule for Crystal Lake is here.
- We make sure our City employees also stay safe. We have protocols in place for those who work outside, and they'll be pulled off outside jobs on Monday as the temperatures rise.
- We take steps at City Hall to help reduce electricity costs and demand, and reduce our carbon footprint during peak demand periods. These include turning thermostats to 74-76 degrees, shutting off air conditioners in offices at the end of the day, and pulling down shades. You may want to consider doing the same.

We can all suffer heat-related illnesses.

The experts suggest drinking plenty of cool fluids, and refraining from doing strenuous activity outdoors. Never leave children or pets unattended in a car, even with the windows open. More information is at Newtonma.gov.

While this is our first summer heat wave, we expect more to come. We work hard to prepare for extreme temperatures.



Ruthanne

P.S. - Happy Father's Day to all the amazing Dads out there.



I want to give a special mention to my youngest son David who became a first-time father on Friday. He and his wife Roey are



the proud parents of our first grandchild. We couldn't be happier.

(Here's a photo of David with his son Henry).



