

## Keep Cool, Milwaukee -- Don't Open Fire Hydrants

It is dangerous and against the law to open fire hydrants without permission -- no matter how hot the temperature.

When hydrants are opened illegally, the water rushes out uncontrolled, causing water pressure to drop in the immediate area. That means firefighters may not have adequate pressure to put out a fire. Also, persons who illegally open hydrants usually do not have the correct tools, and frequently smash and destroy the hydrant. Only the Fire Department, the Milwaukee Water Works, and projects with a public works permit may open hydrants.

Illegally opened hydrants waste millions of gallons of treated water, and misuse the Lake Michigan resource. Please see page two for safe ways to keep cool.

### Fire Hydrants are for fires, not for fun

#### ***It's Dangerous***

- A broken hydrant can't be used to fight fires.
- An open hydrant lowers water pressure and hampers firefighting.
- The strong spray of water is dangerous for children.
- The water spray obstructs the view of drivers who may not see pedestrians or other vehicles in the water spray and has caused accidents.

#### ***It's a Crime***

- *The penalty for tampering with a hydrant is a \$1,000 fine or 30 days in jail.*
- *Report tampering and illegal hydrant opening by calling the Milwaukee Water Works' 24-hour Control Center, (414) 286-3710.*

#### ***Illegally Opened Hydrants are expensive***

- Hydrant open one hour = water-only cost \$312.00
- Hydrant open five hours = water-only cost \$1,388.00
- Damaged or broken hydrant = \$2,330.00
- Buildings are flooded resulting in property damage

### Other Ways to Cool Off

**Cool Spots** provide a place to cool off in a water spray on hot summer days. Sprinklers are connected to fire hydrants provided by the Milwaukee Water Works at several Milwaukee Public Schools playgrounds. For ages 6-17. Cool Spots are open weekdays when the temperature is predicted to be 85 degrees or hotter, or when the City of Milwaukee issues a heat advisory. During a heat advisory, Cool Spots will be open Monday-Friday from 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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**MPS and Milwaukee Water Works Team up for Cool Spots and Wading Pools**

**Cool Spots** provide a place for kids and teens ages six to 17 to cool off in a water spray on hot summer days. Sprinklers are connected to fire hydrants provided by the Milwaukee Water Works at several Milwaukee Public Schools playgrounds. Cool Spots are open weekdays when the temperature is predicted to be 85 degrees or hotter, or when the City of Milwaukee issues a heat advisory. **For Thursday, July 21 and Friday, July 22: Cool Spots will be open 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – two hours longer than the usual 5:00 p.m. closing time.**

**2016 Cool Spots**

Location	Address	Dates
Auer Playground	2221 W. Auer Ave.	July 20 - August 12
Ben Franklin	2308 W. Nash St.	June 20 - August 12
Carmen Playfield	7320 W. Carmen Ave.	June 20 - August 12
Clinton Rose Park	390 W. Chambers St.	June 20 - August 12
Columbia Playfield	1354 W. Columbia St.	June 20 - August 26
Franklin Square	2643 N. 13 <sup>th</sup> St.	June 20 - August 12

**MPS Recreation Wading Pools** are another great way to stay cool on those hot summer days! Wading pools are open Monday-Friday (and Saturday at Enderis) from June 20 through August 12:

**2016 MPS Wading Pools**

Location	Address	Times
Burbank	6035 W. Adler St.	12-4pm
Burnham	1755 S. 32 <sup>nd</sup> St.	10am-5pm
Enderis	2938 N. 72 <sup>nd</sup> St.	12-4pm (M-F) 11am-4pm(Saturday)
Holt	1716 W. Holt Ave.	10am-5pm
Merrill Park	461 N. 35 <sup>th</sup> St.	10am-5pm
Modrzejewski	1020 W. Cleveland Ave.	10am-5pm
Ohio	974 W. Holt Ave.	10am-5pm

- Cool off in a Milwaukee County community center pool. For information, call the 24-hour Pool and Beach Hotline, (414) 257-7230, or visit [www.county.milwaukee.gov/Pools9145.htm](http://www.county.milwaukee.gov/Pools9145.htm).
- **Play in the water at the David F. Schulz Aquatic Center in Lincoln Park**, 1301 W. Hampton Ave. or at the Hoyt Park & Pool, 1850 N. Swan Blvd.
- Cool off at a Lake Michigan beach. Visit a library or museum. Watch penguins splashing or share the heat with a bear at the Milwaukee County Zoo.
- Turn on a hose and sprinkler in your yard and invite your neighbors to cool off.

Here is a guide to MPS summer activities <http://www.milwaukeeerecreation.net/activity-guide/FullGuide.pdf>

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