April 8, 2011

For Immediate Release

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- PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT -

Portland Parks & Recreation temporarily CLOSES all grass sports fields from Saturday, April 9 through Tuesday, April 12, due to unsafe conditions

(Portland, OR) - Due to unseasonable cold and wet weather, Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) grass sport fields have been damaged to the point where continued play is unsafe. Field surfaces can not be repaired until weather conditions improve, so the grass fields are closed until at least Tuesday, April 12, pending evaluation at that time. These fields include those used for soccer, rugby, kickball, lacrosse, and ultimate frisbee.

Portland Parks & Recreation will work with leagues in their primary season to place as many games as possible on the Strasser or Mary Rieke synthetic fields. Games will take precedence over practice sessions at all times during a field closure.

All baseball and softball play will continue to follow current rainout procedures. Call the Rainout Line, 503.823.3020, for those details.

Portland Parks & Recreation will monitor the fields over the next few days to evaluate next steps. Additional information will be posted on portlandparks.org, as well as on the Rainout Line. Information will be updated no later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12. The forecast calls for continued rain and cold weather into next week and further deterioration could lead to long term closure of grass sports fields.

Attachment #1: Damage to grass fields at Delta Park reflects conditions on grass sports fields throughout the park system.

Attachment #2: Damage to grass fields at Glenhaven Park reflects conditions on grass sports fields throughout the park system.

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