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If it weren't for all the walkers and joggers sporting facemasks, one might think that all is back to normal at

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Lazy days of summer, with some restrictions

By Pippa Fisher



And to some degree it is. Both the outer rim and the lower paved trails are open. The crowds are back as usual on these summer mornings before the heat builds. Fishermen can be spotted on the banks enjoying the

peace of the Res. Officials are monitoring and enforcing parking rules.

the Lafayette Reservoir.

But the visitors' center is closed. The boats remain docked, and the playground areas are taped off and closed. Private boat launching, barbecues, and picnic tables are all unavailable. Water fountains are off-limits apart from four located around the paved trail and only selected restrooms are open.

The signs are a reminder that even here, it is not exactly "back to usual" Photo Pippa Fisher

Meanwhile the rangers are happy to see folks back enjoying the beautiful space. They say mostly people are cooperating with social distancing and facemask-wearing requirements.

And until restrictions are loosened, that's the plan - wear a mask and keep your six-foot distance.

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<u>back</u>

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