

Responsible RestartOhio

Camping and Campgrounds



Requirements

Campground operators and campers must follow relevant mandates for social distancing, masking, congregating, and responding to confirmed cases of COVID-19 as outlined in the [Director's Second Amended Order for Social Distancing, Facial Coverings and Non-Congregating](#). Guidance on the order is available at the [Responsible Restart Ohio: Social Distancing, Masking, and Congregating](#) page, available at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Masks should never be worn while swimming because wet masks can cause difficulty breathing.

NOTE: Employers and businesses will likely be unable to determine whether or not employees and customers/patrons have been vaccinated. As such, they may choose to continue to require masking, social distancing, and/or other mitigation measures among all employees and customers/patrons, both vaccinated and unvaccinated.

Recommendations

Below are additional recommended best practices for campground operators and campers.

Campground Operators

Communicate clearly:

- Post information throughout the campgrounds and surrounding areas to frequently remind campers and customers to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These messages should include information about:
 - Staying home if you are sick or do not feel well.
 - Using social distancing and maintaining at least 6 feet between unvaccinated individuals in all areas of the campgrounds and with other campsites.
 - Not gathering in groups if unvaccinated.
 - Wearing a mask or face covering if unvaccinated and entering buildings or interacting in close proximity to other campers.
 - Practicing good personal hygiene, including washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, using hand sanitizer, refraining from touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, coughing and sneezing into an elbow, etc.
- Develop regular communication with campers through a variety of channels (text, emails, social posts, etc.) about the steps your campground is taking to protect campers and stop the spread of COVID-19. Develop an updates website, send emails to campers with additional preventative steps the facility is taking, and communicate what campers should expect to experience.

Maintain public restrooms, showerhouses, and laundry facilities to lower risk of spread of virus:

- Ensure there are functional toilets.
- Clean and sanitize public areas and restrooms in the morning and evening, with increased instances of cleaning and sanitation during peak usage times. Cleaning should be conducted using disinfectants registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), particularly on high-touch surfaces, such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches.
- Make sure supplies for hand-washing, including soap and materials for drying hands, are fully stocked every time the bathroom is cleaned.
- Provide hand sanitizer where water is not available.
- Restrooms, showerhouses, and laundry facilities should limit the number of users at any one time based on the facility size and social distancing guidelines.
- Post a cleaning schedule at each location.
- Install touch-free entry points at restrooms and other facilities.
- Install seat-cover dispensers and motion-sensing faucets, soap, and towel dispensing in restrooms and other facilities.

Closures, modifications, and limitations:

- Operate snack bars and restaurants in accordance with current guidelines for such establishments.
- RV/camper water-filling stations, dump stations, and propane-filling stations should follow social distancing guidelines. Pumps should be disinfected each day and regularly sanitized multiple times a day based on peak usage (for example, sanitizing should increase with anticipated high-traffic exit and entry times).
- Do not allow non-registered campers to visit campsites.
- Campgrounds may require campers to sign an agreement to follow guest safety procedures, and if they choose not to follow park guidelines, they may be asked to leave without a refund.

Follow all appropriate guidance for customer interaction, retail sales, and equipment rentals:

- Post a revised occupancy number in retail or rental areas to minimize crowding where necessary.
- Sanitize all rental equipment after each use, using EPA-registered disinfectants.
- Arrange any seating areas, tables, chairs, etc. (indoors and out) at safe distances from each other for unvaccinated campers. If safe distances are not achievable, or regular sanitizing of these areas is not possible, barricade or remove seating areas.
- Businesses that offer sports activities and sports leagues should follow sports guidance.
- Where available, use online solutions for reservations, waivers, or payment.
- Where possible, install touch-free entry points to stores, check-ins, or buildings.

Employees and Vendors

- Be as flexible as possible with staff attendance and sick-leave policies. Remind staff to stay at home if they are sick. Isolate and send home anyone who exhibits fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
- Require employees to perform a daily symptom assessment prior to reporting for work. Require employees to stay at home if symptomatic and perform daily symptom assessment requirements before returning to work. Conduct symptom assessments over the phone for employees who were ill and planning to return to work.
- Provide proper personal protective equipment (PPE), including masks and gloves. Educate on proper use, disposal, and maintenance of face coverings and enhance education on proper use of gloves, per code. Allow ample opportunities for employees to wash and sanitize their hands.
- Employee vehicles, golf carts, keys, tools, break rooms, bathrooms, and other common areas should be cleaned and disinfected at the end of each shift. For non-assigned items or equipment, disinfect after an employee completes use and prior to another employee using the item.
- Wherever possible, implement staggered employee entry, work in assigned teams, vary arrival and departure, and stagger breaks to avoid interaction or grouping among staff.
- Encourage third-party delivery staff to wait outside or in non-congested areas practicing social distancing guidelines.
- Health checks may include temperature assessments, questionnaires, employee self-checks, screening apps, or other tools. Update files with log of "health checks."
- When hiring, consider virtual interviewing and on-boarding when possible.
- Reinforce education, per current food safety code, about when to wash hands. Post health department hand-washing posters at sinks and stations. Set times for periodic hand-washing..
- Avoid switching tasks when possible to reduce cross contamination concerns. Increase hand-washing if changing tasks is necessary.
- Appoint an employee safety team or point of contact to identify safety concerns, suggest additional safety or sanitizing measures, and make ongoing improvements to safety plans. Make sure all employees know who is on this team and how to contact them. This team can be responsible for training, developing, and distributing information regarding updated protocols, answering questions, and displaying information.
- Regularly provide staff with up-to-date information about COVID-19 and related business procedures and policies. Communicate the importance of practicing preventive actions.

Campers

- If unvaccinated, allow only one family household to occupy each site, with a pre-determined limit for any campsite (10 people or fewer).
- Practice self-contained camping when possible.
- Bring trash bags, food, and supplies. Plan to carry in and carry out trash and other items.