



Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps and Conference Centers **California South** **Divisional Camp(s)**

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Introduction

The Guiding Principle for the creation of this document is simply this: Camp ministry is ‘mission critical’ to the Army, both internally and as a vehicle for outreach and evangelism. This requires a careful and thoughtful response to the current crisis and creative solutions to create a sustainable model that resets our new normal.

There has been much said about things “never being the same again” or “what will the new normal” look like. There is an opportunity before us that is rich in potential and possibilities. As we look to the ‘New Thing’ that God is calling us into, we should guard against just picking up where we left off when this current crisis passes. But rather, we should take this time to imagine what camp will look like in 10 years and position ourselves to take steps today to ensure we get there.

With the speed of change in current events and the ever-changing environment from which to draw information, it should be noted here that there will not be a ‘Silver Bullet’ solution to reopening Camps across the Territory. These resources and recommendations represent our desire to provide useful information critical to the development of reopening plans for camps across the territory. With Camp operations in many states throughout the Territory, it will be very important for Camp leadership to be aware of and guided by their local and state officials when it comes to resuming full operations. The issues and concerns presented here are weighty and will require additional thought, analysis, and prayer if we are to discover the path forward. The mission remains clear, kids need Jesus and they find Him at camp. The opportunity now is to find new ways to a viable and sustainable delivery of that mission.

This resource is set up to provide templates and other sample documents along with a great deal of resource material from authoritative sources. When developing your plan don’t try to eat the whole elephant at one time. Take it in manageable pieces otherwise it can seem insurmountable and overwhelming. This is a living document, so if you have found additional resources that you believe would be helpful, please pass them onto all our camp colleagues around the territory.

There is a bright future ahead loaded with opportunity for us to influence culture and see souls awaken to the hope of the Gospel through experiences unique to camp.

Praying for you as you consider the future of Camp ministry in your Division.

Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps and Conference Centers



Section One: *Should I Open?*

YOUTH PROGRAMS AND CAMPS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



The purpose of this tool is to assist directors or administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding youth programs and camps during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

Should you consider opening?

- ✓ Will reopening be consistent with applicable state and local orders?
- ✓ Are you ready to protect children and employees at [higher risk](#) for severe illness?
- ✓ Are you able to screen children and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

ALL YES



Are recommended health and safety actions in place?

- ✓ Promote [healthy hygiene practices](#) such as [hand washing](#) and [employees wearing a cloth face covering](#), as feasible
- ✓ Intensify [cleaning, disinfection](#), and ventilation of facilities and transport vehicles/buses
- ✓ Encourage [social distancing](#) through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, and staggered scheduling, arrival, and drop off, if feasible
- ✓ Where feasible, adjust activities and procedures to limit sharing of items such as toys, belongings, supplies, and equipment
- ✓ Train all employees on health and safety protocols

ALL YES



Is ongoing monitoring in place?

- ✓ Develop and implement procedures to check for [signs and symptoms](#) in children and employees daily upon arrival, as feasible
- ✓ If feasible, implement enhanced screening for children and employees who have recently been present in areas of high transmission, including temperature checks and symptom monitoring
- ✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to [stay home](#)
- ✓ Plan for if children or employees get sick
- ✓ Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
- ✓ Monitor child and employee absences and have a pool of trained substitutes, and flexible leave policies and practices
- ✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

ALL YES

OPEN AND MONITOR

ANY NO



DO NOT OPEN

ANY NO



**MEET
SAFEGUARDS
FIRST**

ANY NO



**MEET
SAFEGUARDS
FIRST**



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

Camp CAS Divisional Camps (Mt.

Crags/Gilmore & Pine Summit)

In All Phases: Re-opening Plan 2020

- We will establish and continue communication with local and state authorities to determine current mitigation levels in our community.
- We will use the Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance (ACA 5/2020) as principal resource and authoritative guidance in developing plans to reopen.
- We will protect and support staff, children and their families that are high risk for severe illness.
- We will follow State and local supplemental guidance on the operation of Camps Food Service operations.
- We will ensure that any other community groups or organizations that use our facilities also follow the guidance presented in this plan while on site.

Safety Actions:

Communication Plan

(Who & How & When)

Guest Groups : Updated guest group documents sent to all group leaders stating new safety guidelines and policies.

Parents/Campers : Updated communication on new safety guidelines /policies via website and online application.

Corps/Service Extension: Provide updated guidelines via info sessions, registration manual and email communication.

County Officials : Continued communication and obtain approval of re-opening plans (this document).

* For all the above. Communicate new guidelines with signage around camp.

Healthy Hygiene Practices

(What & When & How)

Hand washing : Teach and reinforce handwashing via info slides at camp and pre-camp documents. Provide additional sanitizing stations and sanitizer.

Hydration : Encourage guests/campers to bring their own water bottles (sanitize water fountains often)

Coughs and sneezes : Encourage staff, campers and guests to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.

Enhanced Cleaning (Include Schedule), Disinfecting and Ventilation

(What & When & How)

Sleeping: All cabins/lodges beds have 6 ft. spacing, laying positions head to toe and possible partitions where possible.

Meeting: Encourage outdoor meetings. Indoor meetings will need proper spacing and face coverings.

Dining: Reduce indoor seating to provide proper spacing. Avoid buffet style dining. Grab-n-go best.

Encourage outdoor dining. Provide multiple meal times to reduce rush.

Recreation: Ensure small and safe ratios per activity. Disinfect equipment after each use. Follow EH&E guidelines for each activity.

Ensure Social Distancing

(Who & How & When)

Sleeping: No sharing, proper spacing, stay in 'household groups', place partitions where necessary.

Meeting: Provide sanitation stations, reduced seating, encourage outdoor meetings.

Dining: Eat in 'households', encourage outdoor dining, multiple seatings, 'grab and go' style food service.

Recreation: 'household' activities, outdoor, proper spacing, proper disinfects. Follow EH& E guidelines.

Travel to and From Camp: Staggered arrival/departure times. Provide Corps/Group leaders with step by step camper/guests traveling guidelines and arrival/departure procedures.

Training Staff What: Train all staff on updated camps safety guidelines and procedures

Who : Train all FT, On-Call, volunteer and Summer Staff

When : provide more virtual training and small group training prior to re-opening or starting season.

Monitor for COVID-19 Signs & Symptoms

Staff : Encourage staff to stay home when sick and to be asked to go home when displaying symptoms.

Guests/Volunteers : Educate guests/campers on the signs and share the guidelines that those displaying symptoms will be sent home if sick. Include this in pre-camp paperwork and info slides/signs at camp location(s).

Plan for when a Staff Member or Guest/Volunteer Becomes Sick : Camp(s) will have an isolation lodge available. We will work with guests/camper to be transferred home asap using CDC guidelines.

County Environmental Health:

LA county : Nicolas Martinez 626-430-5570

San Bernardino: Corwin Porter - 909-387-9146

Quarantine Procedures : If symptoms are present - isolate until transportation is available, and follow Response Initiation sections of the ACN CDP for probable cases. Staff members who become ill, can not return to camp until they have met CDC's criteria to discontinue home isolation.

Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps and Conference Centers



Section Two: *Guest Group Guidance and Waivers*

Enhanced Sanitation and Safety at Camp

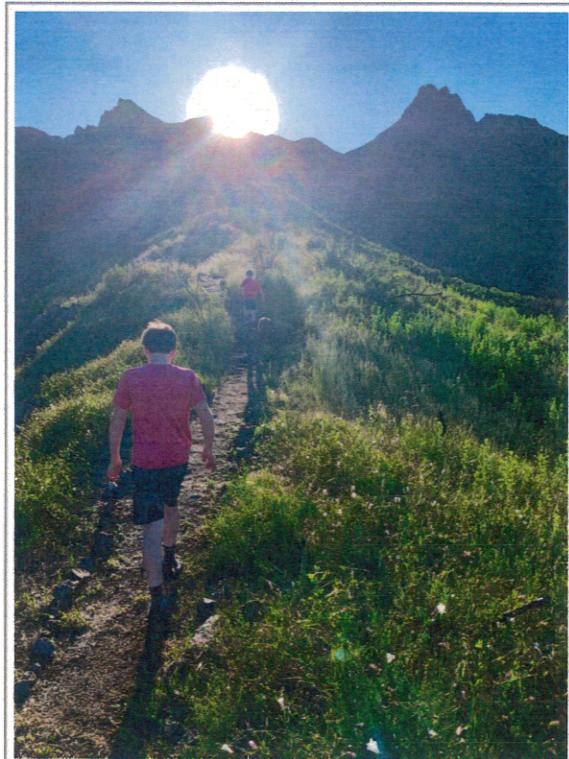


Our Responsibility

Salvation Army Camps are committed to the health, safety, and wellbeing of our guests and staff. We will stay committed to the recommendations of the CDC and local health guidance to ensure our policies align with the strategies from our local Health Department.

What Camp Will Do:

- Increased hand sanitizing stations throughout camp.
Stations in all meeting spaces and dining locations.
- Routinely and often disinfect hard surfaces and objects that are touched frequently and in common areas.
- Provide disposable wipes/solution bottles and paper towels in meeting spaces and dining areas.
- Post signage to promote good hygiene and proper hand washing throughout camp
- Promote social distancing by:
 - reducing chairs per table in the dining hall
 - limit lodging capacities
 - appropriately space chairs in meeting rooms
- Food Service staff will serve food according to local Health Department recommendations
- Ensure staff stay home or are sent home if sick
- Pre arrival screening for all Guests
 - Provide personal information prior to arrival (name, address, email, phone number)
 - Guest will be required to complete, sign and submit a health and wellness form. Guest must stay home if exhibiting any sickness.
 - Health screenings at camp.
- Provide an isolation location for any guest that is showing symptoms until transportation is available.
- Provide PPE equipment to staff as needed and as required by health authorities.





The Salvation Army
Camp Lawrence Daley @ Mt. Crags, Camp Gilmore and Pine Summit
Health and Safety Advisory

The COVID 19 pandemic has reached both LA county and San Bernardino Counties and has impacted many communities around the Country as well. We are committed to the safety and wellbeing of all our guests and staff and are providing the following guidance to help keep you safe and healthy while you are our guest. Here is a list of enhanced sanitation and disinfecting procedures that we have implemented along with guidance for all guests coming to stay at camp. These procedures and practices, designed to help stop the spread of communicable disease, will remain in place at all times as our commitment to community health and safety.

Enhanced Sanitation/disinfecting practices at our CAS Divisional camp(s) locations:

- All meeting and gathering places will be stocked with disinfecting solution and hand sanitizer ready and available for use.
- All public restrooms sanitized and disinfected three times daily.
- Increased daily frequency of cleaning and sanitizing for all “High Touch” surfaces.
- Signage posted in all living areas and public restrooms relating the importance of good handwashing and proper personal hygiene.
- To improve social distance in the dining hall, all tables will be reduced to 60% normal capacity. We will be providing more outdoor seating and possible multiple seating times.

Best Practice for general health and safety:

The CDC (www.cdc.gov/) always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of the respiratory diseases, including:

- Wash hands often with warm soapy water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Keep hands away from eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home if you are not feeling well.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Stay hydrated by drinking lots of water.

Required Action of all Guest Group use of CAS Divisional Camp(s) locations:

- All group use rosters will now require name, address, phone number and email address for all participants.
- All participants will be required to complete, sign and submit a health and wellness questionnaire. This must be done no sooner than 24 hours prior to attendance at camp. All minors must have the questionnaire signed by a parent or guardian.
- All guests will participate in a Health and Safety briefing at the first meal or scheduled meetings, whichever comes first.
- It is recommended that all participants carry with them a small bottle of hand sanitizer for regular use during the retreat or conference.
- Any group participant that exhibits signs and symptoms of illness must remain at home and will not be permitted to stay at camp.

Here's the link to LA and San Bernardino County Health Department Page:

http://dashboard.publichealth.lacounty.gov/covid19_surveillance_dashboard/

<https://wp.sbcounty.gov/cao/countywire/?p=5725>

California Department of Public Health: Mass gathering guidelines:

http://www.santacruzhealth.org/Portals/7/Pdfs/Coronavirus/CDPH%20Guidance%20for%20Mass%20Gatherings%20and%20Large%20Community%20Events_ADA%20Compliant.pdf

**The Salvation Army CAS Divisional Camp(s) locations
Health and Safety Advisory**

Guest Group Name/Event: _____

Dates at Camp: _____

Name of Participant: _____

(Please print legibly)

Home Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____
(If Minor, email address of Parent)

Have you recently traveled out of the Country to an area with confirmed cases of communicable disease?

- Yes
 No

Have you had recent contact with any person(s) with a confirmed exposure/case of a communicable disease?

- Yes
 No

Are you currently experiencing any of the following symptoms: Fever, Cough, Difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, severe illness?

- Yes
 No

(Participant Signature and Date)

**(Parent or Guardian Signature and Date)

** Parent/Guardian Signature required for all participants 17 years of age and younger.

Adventure Program Participant Release Form

**The Salvation Army CAS Divisional Camp(s)
Calabasas Ca, & Big Bear Lake Ca**

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY. THIS IS A LEGAL, BINDING, DOCUMENT.

Release and Assumption of Risk – Please read this Release carefully as it affects your legal rights in the event of accident, injury, contraction of a communicable disease, infection and illness. By signing this document, you are representing that you have read, understood and agree to be bound by the Terms of this Release.

The undersigned participant and parent or guardian acknowledge that The Salvation Army, as part of its Adventure Program at **Camp Lawrence Daley @ Mt. Crags, Camp Gilmore or Camp Pine Summit** has created a challenge course designed to enhance the coordination and physical condition of participants as well as teach teamwork skills. The undersigned persons acknowledge further that The Salvation Army has taken reasonable precautions, consistent with universally national standards, to attempt to ensure that the Adventure Program will provide a safe experience for participants. The undersigned also acknowledges that the program requires physical exertion and strenuous effort. As with any activity and/or outdoor activity involving strenuous physical effort, it is not without certain risks. These risks include but are not limited to the hazards of depending on other people for belaying and spotting as well as forces of nature but also of accident, injury, contraction of a communicable disease, infection and/or illness. The undersigned persons also acknowledge that the participant is in good general health and physically fit to participate in the program.

The undersigned persons also acknowledge and agree that neither The Salvation Army nor any facilitator, employee, Officer, Director, agent nor volunteer of The Salvation Army shall be held liable for any occurrence in connection with the Adventure Program that may result in injury, contraction of a communicable disease and/or contraction of a viral or bacterial infection of any type or other damage to the undersigned participant and they therefore Release The Salvation Army, its facilitators and employees from any liability whatsoever for injury, contraction of a communicable disease, infection and/or illness and/or damage to persons or property resulting from his/her participation in the Adventure Program. The undersigned further agrees to indemnify and hold harmless The Salvation Army and all persons associated with it from any claim by the undersigned participant or his/her family, estate or heirs arising of the participation enrollment in The Salvation Army's Adventure Program. The undersigned persons further acknowledge that enrollment in The Salvation Army's Adventure Program is entirely voluntary, and that in consideration of being able to enroll and participate in a course, the undersigned persons hereby assume all risks related to the course for any injury, contraction of a communicable disease, infection and/or illness and/or contraction of a viral or bacterial infection of any kind and/or damage to persons and/or property that may result while the undersigned participant is enrolled in the course and the undersigned assume all risks connected with participation in the course, whether foreseen or unforeseen.

Policy for Pregnant Women: Women who are pregnant are invited to participate in the Adventure Program. The woman and the facilitator will discuss safety issues of each activity and decide whether the activity compromises the safety of the mother and the unborn child.

Participant is required to sign this document to acknowledge understanding and agreement of the content. If the participant is under 18 years of age, the parent or guardian is required to sign.

Print Name – Participant

Signature – Participant

Date

Print Name of Parent or Guardian if under 18

Signature of Parent or Guardian if under 18

Date

What Camp Will Do:

- Increased hand sanitizing stations throughout camp. Stations in all meeting spaces and dining locations.
 - Camps will need to provide hand sanitizing stations at all entrances/exits of every meeting space and dining locations. Possible even provide sanitizing stations to activity areas.
- Routinely and often disinfect surfaces and objects that are touched frequently and in common areas.
 - Camps will need to provide staff members (possibly hire additional staff) to clean all commonly used areas and even surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, sink handles, countertops, etc...)
 - For activity equipment, camps would need to find solutions to wipe down or spray all activity equipment after each individual use (i.e. disinfect each harness before the next guest would use it)
- Provide disposable wipes/solution bottles and paper towels in meeting spaces and dining areas.
 - Additional to sanitizing stations, camp would need to provide wipes or spray bottles to common areas for guests to wipe down their used spaces
- Post signage to promote good hygiene and proper hand washing throughout camp
 - Camps will need to post signage in all living areas and public restrooms to relay the importance of good hand washing and proper hygiene.
- Promote social distancing by:
 - reducing chairs per table in the dining hall
 - Camps to reduce seating capacities in their dining halls (i.e. maybe only provide 4 chairs per table rather than 8)
 - limit lodging capacities
 - Where lodging has less than 6ft. between beds, camps will not allow guests to occupy those beds.
 - appropriately space chairs in meeting rooms
 - Camps will need to adjust the occupancy in meeting spaces to ensure social distancing is possible.
- Food Service staff will serve food according to local health recommendations
 - Camps will need to adhere to local health for dining operations. This will most likely include having dining hall staff service food from safe buffet lines.
- Ensure staff stay home or are sent home if sick
- Require more from all guests:
 - Provide Personal information prior to arrival (name, address, email, phone number)
 - Camps to generate a fillable google doc. or similar that will save to camp servers and easily accessible for contact tracing.
 - Guests will be required to complete, sign, and submit a health and wellness form. Guest must stay home if exhibiting any sickness.
 - Camps will require this to be completed within 24 hours of the guest's arrival to camp.
 - Camps will ensure guest leaders communicate that any guest displaying symptoms (Fever, Cough, Difficulty Breathing) to stay home.
 - Health screenings at camp
 - Camps to provide health screenings to all guests. Might just be fever testing and could allow group leaders to test their own group and turn in signed form stating no fevers from their group.
- Provide an isolation location for any guest that is showing symptoms and until transportation is available.
 - Camps will need to always have a standby location available as an isolation location.
- Provide PPE equipment for staff as needed and required by health authorities.
 - Camps will need to provide the recommended PPE equipment to ensure staff safety.

Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps and Conference Centers



Section Four:

*Cleaning and
Disinfecting*



General Guidance – All Areas

Hyperlinks with additional information are underlined in blue

- Day to Day Required Operations – continue regular programming implementing the following guidelines until further notice.
 - Post Hygiene & sanitation signage/posters
 - Daily cleaning schedule with check-off
 - Minimize physical contact (hand shaking, hugs, etc.)
 - Hand washing available or sanitizer available
 - Clean and disinfect Use of gloves, masks, and eye protection when cleaning & disinfecting as recommended
 - Report suspected or known cases of COVID-19 to supervisors & DHQ
 - Identify an area where symptomatic guests can be placed
 - Call healthcare provider if staff and/or guests think they have been exposed to COVID-19 and developed a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing.
- Take everyday preventive actions:
 - Wash your hands frequently.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Stay home when you are sick.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Take additional precautions for those at highest risk, particularly older adults and those who have severe underlying health conditions:
 - Immunocompromised and elderly people must stay at home and away from crowds
 - Make sure you have access to medications and supplies if quarantined
 - Limit close contact with others and keep outings to essentials only
 - Practice good hand hygiene
- Put your personal plan into action:
 - Continue to practice everyday preventive actions.
 - If someone in the household is sick, separate them into the prepared room and all household members should limit outside contact
 - If caring for a household member, follow recommended precautions and monitor your own health
 - Keep surfaces disinfected and avoid sharing personal items
 - If you become sick, stay in contact with others by phone or email
 - Stay informed about the local outbreak situation on a regular basis, but avoid misinformation by limiting information to official government notifications
 - Notify your work if your schedule needs to change
 - Take care of the emotional health of your household members, including yourself
- Posters available for your facility:
 - Lead By Example (CDC) English and Spanish.
 - Spreading germs is OUT, Handwashing is IN! (CDC) 8.5 x 11 and 11 x 17
 - Stop the spread of germs (CDC) English, Spanish and Simplified Chinese.
 - Symptoms of Coronavirus Disease (CDC) English, Spanish and Simplified Chinese.



- External Resources:

- [California Department of Public Health AFL for Environmental Infection Control for the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) – Handouts & Posters \(CDC\)](#)
- [Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations \(CDC\)](#)
- [Handwashing: Clean Hands Save Lives – Posters \(CDC\)](#)
- [Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 in Homes and Residential Communities \(CDC\)](#)
- [Steps to Prevent Illness \(CDC\)](#)



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes

This guidance is intended for all Americans, whether you own a business, run a school, or want to ensure the cleanliness and safety of your home. Reopening America requires all of us to move forward together by practicing social distancing and other [daily habits](#) to reduce our risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19. Reopening the country also strongly relies on public health strategies, including increased testing of people for the virus, social distancing, isolation, and keeping track of how someone infected might have infected other people. This plan is part of the larger [United States Government plan](#) and focuses on cleaning and disinfecting public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools, and can also be applied to your home.

**GUIDANCE FOR
CLEANING & DISINFECTION**
PUBLIC SPACES, WORKPLACES, BUSINESSES,
SCHOOLS, AND HOMES

1. DEVELOP YOUR PLAN
DETERMINING WHAT NEEDS TO BE CLEANED.
Areas cleaned for 7+ days need only be cleaned again if they are being used or cleaned prior to their previous use.
DETERMINING HOW FREQUENT WILL BE DISINFECTED. Consider the type of surface and how frequently it will be touched. Prioritize disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.
COMBINING THE RESOURCES AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED. Keep in mind that availability of cleaning products and personal protective equipment may be appropriate for cleaning and disinfecting.

2. IMPLEMENT
CLEAN HIGHLY DIRTY SURFACES WITH SOAP AND WATER prior to disinfection.
USE THE APPROPRIATE CLEANING OR DISINFECTANT PRODUCT. Use an EPA-approved disinfectant against SARS-CoV-2. Make sure to read and follow product instructions.
ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE LABEL. The label contains important safety information, including how to use the product correctly. Read directions before use. Keep disinfectants out of the reach of children.

3. MAINTAIN AND REVISE
CONTINUE REGULAR CLEANING AND DISINFECTION. Continue or reinforce previously used appropriate cleaning and disinfection practices. Surfaces should be cleaned with soap and water prior to disinfection. Routinely disinfect frequently touched items.
MAINTAIN SAFE PRACTICES such as frequent handwashing, using cloth face coverings, and staying 6 feet away from others. Avoid sharing of common objects and frequently touched objects.

For more information, please visit [CORONAVIRUS.GOV](https://coronavirus.gov)

Cleaning & Disinfecting Decision Tool

[Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#) [PDF – 9 pages]

Cleaning and disinfecting public spaces including your workplace, school, home, and business will require you to:

- Develop your plan
- Implement your plan
- Maintain and revise your plan

Reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 by cleaning and disinfection is an important part of reopening public spaces that will require careful planning. Every American has been called upon to slow the spread of the virus through social distancing and prevention hygiene, such as frequently washing your hands and wearing face coverings. Everyone also has a role in making sure our communities are as safe as possible to reopen and remain open.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can be killed if you use the right products. EPA has compiled a list of disinfectant products that can be used against COVID-19, including ready-to-use sprays, concentrates, and wipes. Each product has been shown to be effective against viruses that are harder to kill than viruses like the one that causes COVID-19.

This document provides a general framework for cleaning and disinfection practices. The framework is based on doing the following:

1. Normal routine cleaning with soap and water will decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure.
2. Disinfection using [EPA-approved disinfectants against COVID-19](#) can also help reduce the risk. Frequent disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by multiple people is important.
3. When [EPA-approved disinfectants](#) are not available, alternative disinfectants can be used (for example, 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or 70% alcohol solutions). Do not mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together. This can cause fumes that may be very dangerous to breathe in. Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours. Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children. [Read EPA's infographic on how to use these disinfectant products](#) safely and effectively.

Links to specific recommendations for many public spaces that use this framework, can be found at the end of this document.

It's important to continue to follow federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local guidance for reopening America.

A Few Important Reminders about Coronaviruses and Reducing the Risk of Exposure:

- Coronaviruses on surfaces and objects naturally die within hours to days. Warmer temperatures and exposure to sunlight will reduce the time the virus survives on surfaces and objects.
- Normal routine cleaning with soap and water removes germs and dirt from surfaces. It lowers the risk of spreading COVID-19 infection.
- Disinfectants kill germs on surfaces. By killing germs on a surface after cleaning, you can further lower the risk of spreading infection. [EPA-approved disinfectants](#) are an important part of reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19. If disinfectants on this list are in short supply, alternative disinfectants can be used (for example, 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or 70% alcohol solutions). Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours.
- Store and use disinfectants in a responsible and appropriate manner according to the label. Do not mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together—this can cause fumes that may be very dangerous to breathe in. Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children.
- Do not overuse or stockpile disinfectants or other supplies. This can result in shortages of appropriate products for others to use in critical situations.
- Always wear gloves appropriate for the chemicals being used when you are cleaning and disinfecting. Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) may be needed based on setting and product. For more information, see [CDC's website on Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#).
- Practice social distancing, wear facial coverings, and follow proper prevention hygiene, such as washing your hands frequently and using alcohol-based (at least 60% alcohol) hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.

If you oversee staff in a workplace, your plan should include considerations about the safety of custodial staff and other people who are carrying out the cleaning or disinfecting. These people are at increased risk of being exposed to the virus and to any toxic effects of the cleaning chemicals. These staff should wear appropriate PPE for cleaning and disinfecting. To protect your staff and to ensure that the products are used effectively, staff should be instructed on how to apply the disinfectants according to the label. For more information on concerns related to cleaning staff, visit the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's website on [Control and Prevention](#).

Develop Your Plan

Evaluate your workplace, school, home, or business to determine what kinds of surfaces and materials make up that area. Most surfaces and objects will just need normal routine cleaning. Frequently touched surfaces and objects like light switches and doorknobs will need to be cleaned and then disinfected to further reduce the risk of germs on surfaces and objects.

- First, clean the surface or object with soap and water.
- Then, disinfect using an [EPA-approved disinfectant](#).
- If an EPA-approved disinfectant is unavailable, you can use 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water, or 70% alcohol solutions to disinfect. Do not mix bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products together. Bleach solutions will be effective for disinfection up to 24 hours. Find additional information at [CDC's website on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#).

You should also consider what items can be moved or removed completely to reduce frequent handling or contact from multiple people. Soft and porous materials, such as area rugs and seating, may be removed or stored to reduce the challenges with cleaning and disinfecting them. Find additional reopening guidance for cleaning and disinfecting in the [Reopening Decision Tool](#).

It is critical that your plan includes how to maintain a cleaning and disinfecting strategy after reopening. Develop a flexible plan with your staff or family, adjusting the plan as federal, state, tribal, territorial, or local guidance is updated and if your specific circumstances change.

Determine what needs to be cleaned

Some surfaces only need to be cleaned with soap and water. For example, surfaces and objects that are not frequently touched should be cleaned and do not require additional disinfection. Additionally, disinfectants should typically not be applied on items used by children, especially any items that children might put in their mouths. Many disinfectants are toxic when swallowed. In a household setting, cleaning toys and other items used by children with soap and water is usually sufficient. Find more information on cleaning and disinfection toys and other surfaces in the childcare program setting at [CDC's Guidance for Childcare Programs that Remain Open](#).

These questions will help you decide which surfaces and objects will need normal routine cleaning.

Is the area outdoors?

Outdoor areas generally require normal routine cleaning and do not require disinfection. Spraying disinfectant on sidewalks and in parks is not an efficient use of disinfectant supplies and has not been proven to reduce the risk of COVID-19 to the public. You should maintain existing cleaning and hygiene practices for outdoor areas.

The targeted use of disinfectants can be done effectively, efficiently and safely on outdoor hard surfaces and objects frequently touched by multiple people. Certain outdoor areas and facilities, such as bars and restaurants, may have additional requirements. More information can be found on FDA's website on [Food Safety and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#) .

There is no evidence that the virus that causes COVID-19 can spread directly to humans from water in pools, hot tubs or spas, or water play areas. Proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (for example, with chlorine or bromine) of pools, hot tubs or spas, and water playgrounds should kill the virus that causes COVID-19. However, there are additional concerns with outdoor areas that may be maintained less frequently, including playgrounds, or other facilities located within local, state, or national parks. For more information, visit CDC's website on [Visiting Parks & Recreational Facilities](#).

Has the area been unoccupied for the last 7 days?

If your workplace, school, or business has been unoccupied for 7 days or more, it will only need your normal routine cleaning to reopen the area. This is because the virus that causes COVID-19 has not been shown to survive on surfaces longer than this time.

There are many public health considerations, not just COVID-19 related, when reopening public buildings and spaces that have been closed for extended periods. For example, take measures to ensure the [safety of your building water system](#). It is not necessary to clean ventilation systems, other than routine maintenance, as part of reducing risk of corona viruses. For healthcare facilities, additional guidance is provided on [CDC's Guidelines for Environmental Infection Control in Health-Care Facilities](#) .

Determine what needs to be disinfected

Following your normal routine cleaning, you can disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects using a product from [EPA's list of approved products that are effective against COVID-19](#) .

These questions will help you choose appropriate disinfectants.

Are you cleaning or disinfecting a hard and non-porous material or item like glass, metal, or plastic?

Consult [EPA's list of approved products for use against COVID-19](#)  . This list will help you determine the most appropriate disinfectant for the surface or object. You can use diluted household bleach solutions if appropriate for the surface. Pay special attention to the personal protective equipment (PPE) that may be needed to safely apply the disinfectant and the manufacturer's recommendations concerning any additional hazards. Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children. Please visit [CDC's website on How to Clean and Disinfect](#) for additional details and warnings.

Examples of frequently touched surfaces and objects that will need routine disinfection following reopening are:

- tables,
- doorknobs,
- light switches,
- countertops,
- handles,
- desks,
- phones,
- keyboards,
- toilets,
- faucets and sinks,
- gas pump handles,
- touch screens, and
- ATM machines

Each business or facility will have different surfaces and objects that are frequently touched by multiple people. Appropriately disinfect these surfaces and objects. For example, transit stations have [specific guidance](#) for application of cleaning and disinfection.

Are you cleaning or disinfecting a soft and porous material or items like carpet, rugs, or seating in areas?

Soft and porous materials are generally not as easy to disinfect as hard and non-porous surfaces. [EPA has listed a limited number of products approved for disinfection for use on soft and porous materials](#). Soft and porous materials that are not frequently touched should only be cleaned or laundered, following the directions on the item's label, using the warmest appropriate water setting. Find more information on [CDC's website on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#) for developing strategies for dealing with soft and porous materials.

Consider the resources and equipment needed

Keep in mind the availability of cleaning and disinfection products and appropriate PPE. Always wear gloves appropriate for the chemicals being used for routine cleaning and disinfecting. Follow the directions on the disinfectant label for additional PPE needs. In specific instances, personnel with specialized training and equipment may be required to apply certain disinfectants such as fumigants or fogs. For more information on appropriate PPE for cleaning and disinfection, see [CDC's website on Cleaning and Disinfection for Community Facilities](#).

Implement Your Plan

Once you have a plan, it's time to take action. Read all manufacturer's instructions for the cleaning and disinfection products you will use. Put on your gloves and other required personal protective equipment (PPE) to begin the process of cleaning and disinfecting.

Clean visibly dirty surfaces with soap and water

Clean surfaces and objects using soap and water prior to disinfection. Always wear gloves appropriate for the chemicals being used for routine cleaning and disinfecting. Follow the directions on the disinfectant label for additional PPE needs. When you finish cleaning, remember to wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.

Clean or launder soft and porous materials like seating in an office or coffee shop, area rugs, and carpets. Launder items according to the manufacturer's instructions, using the warmest temperature setting possible and dry items completely.

Use the appropriate cleaning or disinfectant product

EPA approved disinfectants [↗](#), when applied according to the manufacturer's label, are effective for use against COVID-19. Follow the instructions on the label for all cleaning and disinfection products for concentration, dilution, application method, contact time and any other special considerations when applying.

Always follow the directions on the label

Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product. Many product labels recommend keeping the surface wet for a specific amount of time. The label will also list precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product. Keep all disinfectants out of the reach of children.

Maintain and Revise Your Plan

Take steps to reduce your risk of exposure to the virus that causes COVID-19 during daily activities. [CDC provides tips](#) to reduce your exposure and risk of acquiring COVID-19. Reducing exposure to yourself and others is a shared responsibility. Continue to update your plan based on updated guidance and your current circumstances.

Continue routine cleaning and disinfecting

Routine cleaning and disinfecting are an important part of reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Normal routine cleaning with soap and water alone can reduce risk of exposure and is a necessary step before you disinfect dirty surfaces.

Surfaces frequently touched by multiple people, such as door handles, desks, phones, light switches, and faucets, should be cleaned and disinfected at least daily. More frequent cleaning and disinfection may be required based on level of use. For example, certain surfaces and objects in public spaces, such as shopping carts and point of sale keypads, should be cleaned and disinfected before each use.

Consider choosing a different disinfectant if your first choice is in short supply. Make sure there is enough supply of gloves and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) based on the label, the amount of product you will need to apply, and the size of the surface you are treating.

Maintain safe behavioral practices

We have all had to make significant behavioral changes to reduce the spread of COVID-19. To reopen America, we will need to continue these practices:

- social distancing (specifically, staying 6 feet away from others when you must go into a shared space)
- frequently washing hands or use alcohol-based (at least 60% alcohol) hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available
- wearing cloth face coverings
- avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- staying home when sick
- cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces

It's important to continue to follow federal, state, tribal, territorial, and local guidance for reopening America. Check this resource for [updates on COVID-19](#) [↗](#). This will help you change your plan when situations are updated.

Consider practices that reduce the potential for exposure

It is also essential to change the ways we use public spaces to work, live, and play. We should continue thinking about our safety and the safety of others.

To reduce your exposure to or the risk of spreading COVID-19 after reopening your business or facility, consider whether you need to touch certain surfaces or materials. Consider wiping public surfaces before and after you touch them. These types of behavioral adjustments can help reduce the spread of COVID-19. There are other resources for more information on [COVID-19](#) [↗](#) and how to [Prevent Getting Sick](#).

Another way to reduce the risk of exposure is to make long-term changes to practices and procedures. These could include reducing the use of porous materials used for seating, leaving some doors open to reduce touching by multiple people, opening windows to improve ventilation, or removing objects in your common areas, like coffee creamer containers. There are many other steps that businesses and institutions can put into place to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 and protect their staff and the public. More information can be found at [CDC's Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#) .

Conclusion

Reopening America requires all of us to move forward together using recommended best practices and maintaining safe daily habits in order to reduce our risk of exposure to COVID-19. Remember: We're all in this together!

Additional resources with more specific recommendations.

Healthcare Setting

- Long-term Care Facilities, Nursing Homes
 - [Infection Control in Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Infection Prevention](#)
 - [Preparedness Checklist](#) 
 - [Things Facilities Should Do Now to Prepare for COVID-19](#)
 - [When there are Cases in the Facility](#)
- Dialysis Facilities
 - [Infection Control in Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Interim guidance for Outpatient Hemodialysis Facilities](#)
 - [Patient Screening](#)
- Blood and Plasma Facilities
 - [Infection control in Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Infection Control and Environmental Management](#)
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Blood and Plasma Collection Facilities](#)
- Alternate Care Sites
 - [Infection Prevention and Control](#)
- Dental Settings
 - [Infection control in Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Dental Settings](#)
- Pharmacies
 - [Infection control in Healthcare Settings](#)
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Interim Guidance for Pharmacies](#)
 - [Risk-Reduction During Close-Contact Services](#)
- Outpatient and ambulatory care facilities
 - [Infection control in Healthcare Settings](#)

- [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- [Hand Hygiene](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Outpatient & Ambulatory Care Settings](#)
- Postmortem Care
 - [Using Personal Protective Equipment](#)
 - [Hand Hygiene](#)
 - [Collection and Submission of Postmortem Samples](#)
 - [Cleaning and Waste Disposal](#)
 - [Transportation of Human Remains](#)

Community Locations

- Critical Infrastructure Employees
 - [Interim Guidance for Critical Infrastructure Employees](#)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility](#)
- Schools and childcare programs
 - [K-12 and Childcare Interim Guidance](#)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility](#)
 - [FAQ for Administrators](#)
 - [Parent and Teacher Checklist](#)
- Colleges and universities
 - [Interim Guidance for Colleges & Universities](#)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility](#)
 - [Guidance for Student Foreign Travel](#)
 - [FAQ for Administrators](#)
- Gatherings and community events
 - [Interim Guidance for Mass Gatherings and Events](#)
 - [Election Polling Location Guidance](#)
 - [Events FAQ](#)
- Community- and faith-based organizations
 - [Interim Guidance for Organizations](#)
 - [Cleaning and Disinfecting your Facility](#)
- Businesses
 - [Interim Guidance for Businesses](#)
- Parks & Rec Facilities
 - [Guidance for Administrators of Parks](#)
- Law Enforcement
 - [What Law Enforcement Personnel Need to Know about COVID-19](#)
- Homeless Service Providers
 - [Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers](#)
- Retirement Homes
 - [Interim Guidance for Retirement Communities](#)
 - [FAQ for Administrators](#)
- Correction & Detention Facilities
 - [Interim Guidance for Correction & Detention Facilities](#)
 - [FAQ for Administrators](#)

Home Setting

- Preventing Getting Sick
 - [How to Protect Yourself and Others](#)

- [Cleaning and Disinfecting your Home](#)
- [Tribal – How to Prevent the Spread of Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) in Your Home](#)  
- [Tribal – How to Care for Yourself at Home During Covid-19](#)  
- Running Errands
 - [Shopping for Food and Other Essential Items](#)
 - [Accepting Deliveries and Takeout](#)
 - [Banking](#)
 - [Getting Gasoline](#)
 - [Going to the Doctor and Pharmacy](#)
- If you are sick
 - [Steps to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID19 if You are Sick](#)

Transportation

- Ships
 - [Interim Guidance for Ships on Managing Suspected COVID-19](#)
- Airlines
 - [Cleaning Aircraft Carriers](#)
 - [Airline Agents Interim Guidance](#)
- Buses
 - [Bus Transit Operator](#)
- Rail
 - [Rail Transit Operators](#)
 - [Transit Station Workers](#)
- EMS Transport Vehicles
 - [Interim Guidance for EMS](#)
- Taxis and Rideshares
 - [Keeping Commercial Establishments Safe](#) 

Restaurants & Bars

- [Best Practices from FDA](#) 

Page last reviewed: May 7, 2020

GUIDANCE FOR CLEANING & DISINFECTING

PUBLIC SPACES, WORKPLACES, BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, AND HOMES



SCAN HERE
FOR MORE
INFORMATION

1 DEVELOP YOUR PLAN

DETERMINE WHAT NEEDS TO BE CLEANED.

Areas unoccupied for 7 or more days need only routine cleaning. Maintain existing cleaning practices for outdoor areas.

DETERMINE HOW AREAS WILL BE

DISINFECTED. Consider the type of surface and how often the surface is touched. Prioritize disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

2 IMPLEMENT

CLEAN VISIBLY DIRTY SURFACES WITH SOAP AND WATER prior to disinfection.

USE THE APPROPRIATE CLEANING

OR DISINFECTANT PRODUCT. Use an EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19, and read the label to make sure it meets your needs.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS ON THE LABEL.

The label will include safety information and application instructions. Keep disinfectants out of the reach of children.

3 MAINTAIN AND REVISE

CONTINUE ROUTINE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION.

Continue or revise your plan based upon appropriate disinfectant and PPE availability. Dirty surfaces should be cleaned with soap and water prior to disinfection. Routinely disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily.

MAINTAIN SAFE PRACTICES such as frequent handwashing, using cloth face coverings, and staying home if you are sick.

CONTINUE PRACTICES THAT REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR EXPOSURE.

Maintain social distancing, staying six feet away from others. Reduce sharing of common spaces and frequently touched objects.

Follow guidance from state, tribal, local, and territorial authorities.

For more information, please visit [CORONAVIRUS.GOV](https://coronavirus.gov)



MAKING YOUR PLAN TO CLEAN AND DISINFECT

Cleaning with soap and water removes germs, dirt, and impurities from surfaces. It lowers the risk of spreading infection.

Disinfecting kills germs on surfaces. By killing germs on a surface after cleaning, it can further lower the risk of spreading infection.

Is the area indoors?



YES

It is an indoor area.



YES



Yes, the area has been occupied within the last 7 days.



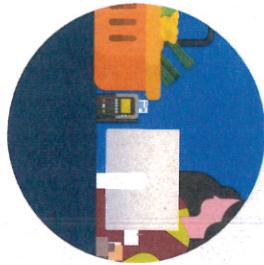
Has the area been occupied within the last 7 days?

NO



Maintain existing cleaning practices.

Coronaviruses naturally die in hours to days in typical indoor and outdoor environments. Viruses are killed more quickly by warmer temperatures and sunlight.



NO



The area has been unoccupied within the last 7 days.

The area will need only routine cleaning.

Is it a frequently touched surface or object?

YES



Yes, it is a frequently touched surface or object.

Yes, the area has been occupied within the last 7 days.



NO



Thoroughly clean these materials.

Consider setting a schedule for routine cleaning and disinfection, as appropriate.



Hard and non-porous materials like glass, metal, or plastic.

Visibly dirty surfaces should be cleaned prior to disinfection.

Consult EPA's list of disinfectants for use against COVID-19, specifically for use on hard, non-porous surfaces and for your specific application need. More frequent cleaning and disinfection is necessary to reduce exposure.

Soft and porous materials like carpet, rugs, or material in seating areas.

Thoroughly clean or launder materials.

Consider removing soft and porous materials in high traffic areas. Disinfect materials if appropriate products are available.



Cleaning And Disinfecting Your Facility

Everyday Steps, Steps When Someone is Sick, and Considerations for Employers

How to clean and disinfect

Wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect.

Clean

- **Clean surfaces using soap and water.** Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.



High touch surfaces include:

Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.



Disinfect

- Clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty. Then, use a household disinfectant.
- **Recommend use of EPA-registered household disinfectant.**

Follow the instructions on the label to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

Many products recommend:

- Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label)
- Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

- **Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used** if appropriate for the surface. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

Leave solution on the surface for **at least 1 minute**

To make a bleach solution, mix:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water

OR

- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

- **Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.**

Soft surfaces

For soft surfaces such as **carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes**

- **Clean the surface using soap and water** or with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.



- **Launder items** (if possible) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.

OR

- **Disinfect with an EPA-registered household disinfectant.** [These disinfectants](#) meet EPA's criteria for use against COVID-19.

Electronics

- For electronics, such as **tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines**
- Consider putting a **wipeable** cover on electronics.
- **Follow manufacturer's instruction** for cleaning and disinfecting.
 - If no guidance, **use alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol.** Dry surface thoroughly.



Laundry

For clothing, towels, linens and other items

- **Wear disposable gloves.**
- **Wash hands with soap and water** as soon as you remove the gloves.
- **Do not shake** dirty laundry.
- Launder items according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the **warmest appropriate water setting** and dry items completely.
- Dirty laundry from a sick person **can be washed with other people's items.**
- Clean and **disinfect clothes hampers** according to guidance above for surfaces.



Cleaning and disinfecting your building or facility if someone is sick

- **Close off areas** used by the sick person.
- **Open outside doors and windows** to increase air circulation in the area. **Wait 24 hours** before you clean or disinfect. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Clean and disinfect **all areas used by the sick person**, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment like tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines.
- **If more than 7 days** since the sick person visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection.



When cleaning

- **Wear disposable gloves and gowns for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.**
 - Additional personal protective equipment (PPE) might be required based on the cleaning/disinfectant products being used and whether there is a risk of splash.
 - Gloves and gowns should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area.
- **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for 20 seconds.
 - Always wash immediately after removing gloves and after contact with a sick person.



- Hand sanitizer: If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.

- **Additional key times to wash hands** include:

- After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- After using the restroom.
- Before eating or preparing food.
- After contact with animals or pets.
- Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child).

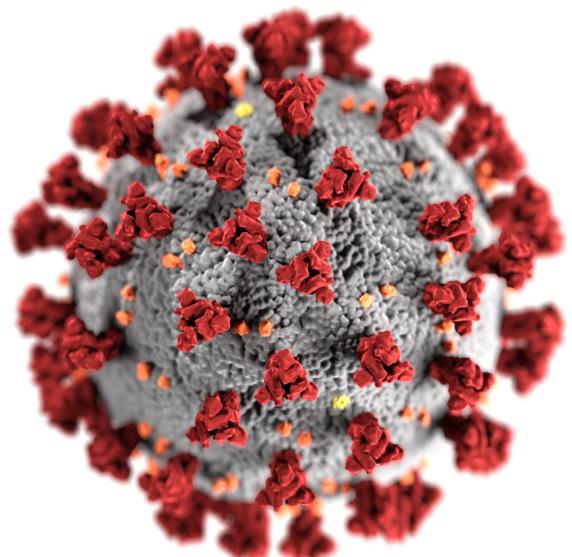
Additional Considerations for Employers



- **Educate workers** performing cleaning, laundry, and trash pick-up to recognize the symptoms of COVID-19.
- Provide instructions **on what to do if they develop symptoms within 14 days** after their last possible exposure to the virus.
- Develop **policies for worker protection and provide training** to all cleaning staff on site prior to providing cleaning tasks.
 - Training should include when to use PPE, what PPE is necessary, how to properly don (put on), use, and doff (take off) PPE, and how to properly dispose of PPE.
- Ensure workers are **trained on the hazards of the cleaning chemicals** used in the workplace in accordance with OSHA's Hazard Communication standard ([29 CFR 1910.1200](#)).
- **Comply** with OSHA's standards on Bloodborne Pathogens ([29 CFR 1910.1030](#)), including proper disposal of regulated waste, and PPE ([29 CFR 1910.132](#)).

For facilities that house people overnight:

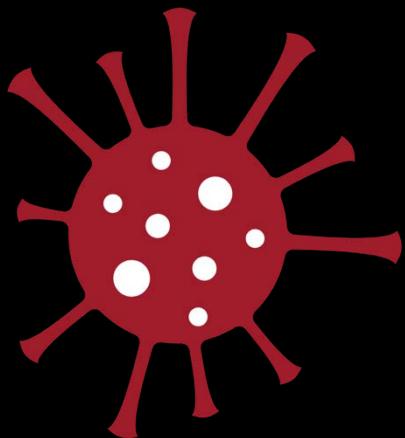
- Follow CDC's guidance for [colleges and universities](#). Work with state and local health officials to determine the best way to isolate people who are sick and if temporary housing is needed.
- For guidance on cleaning and disinfecting a sick person's bedroom/bathroom, review CDC's guidance on [disinfecting your home if someone is sick](#).





THE ALLIANCE

**COVID-19 REOPENING & OPERATION
STRATEGIES FOR CHALLENGE COURSES
&
AERIAL ATTRACTIONS**



V. 1.0, 18 MAY 2020

ABOUT THE ALLIANCE COLLABORATIVE

The Alliance Collaborative is an independent non-profit collaborative, dedicated to serving its membership throughout the challenge course, zip line, and aerial adventure industry.

Our **MISSION** is to build a professional community that believes we all benefit when we strengthen one another.

By creating a bold and collaborative environment, The Alliance provides paths for professional growth to its members. Our **VISION** is to model a revolutionary approach for industry professionals to RETHINK the way they do business. Through advocacy, education, networking, and greater access to resources, members and associates can experience increased opportunities to strengthen and enhance their efficiency, productivity, and profitability in the marketplace.

We **VALUE**:

- Voluntary Membership
- Direct Member Input
- Group Purchase Participation
- Autonomy and Independence
- Education, Training, and Advocacy
- Cooperation with Other Groups
- Concern for Our Industry

Visit <http://www.thealliancecollaborative.com/> to learn more, or to contact us and explore how we can work together to build a stronger challenge course community.

"FIND A GROUP OF PEOPLE
WHO CHALLENGE AND INSPIRE YOU,
SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH THEM,
AND IT WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE."
-AMY POEHLER

INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 crisis has brought a new challenge upon all of us. The founding member companies of The Alliance have been independently researching and developing their own COVID-19 protocols, as well as strategies that they can recommend to their clients, the operators.

During the process of sharing information, bouncing ideas off each other, and debating practical solutions, they realized that the work they were doing for their own companies and clients might be beneficial to the challenge course community at large. The proposal was made to The Alliance to compile and share this information in an effort to help others.

True to The Alliance's mission and culture, we created a space for Qualified Course Professionals¹ from our founding member companies to work collaboratively. A new team of over a dozen professional Designers, Installers, Inspectors, Trainer/Testers, and Operation Reviewers compiled and assessed the strategies that were being put forth and weighed that against studies and data currently available. The end result is this document, which we would like to share with you.

We would like to thank these individuals who shared their professional expertise in order to develop to this document, as well as our Founding Members for being willing to make these resources and information available to their community.

THANK YOU!

Paul Hancock
Carla Hacker
Keith Jacobs
Nat Johnson
Jeremiah Mayerak

Bob Noe
Rich Petteruti
Nick Redinger
Brenda Reed
Nicole Rottinghaus

Rohan Shahani
Mandy Stewart
Don Stock
Shawn Tresselt
Andrea Vogt

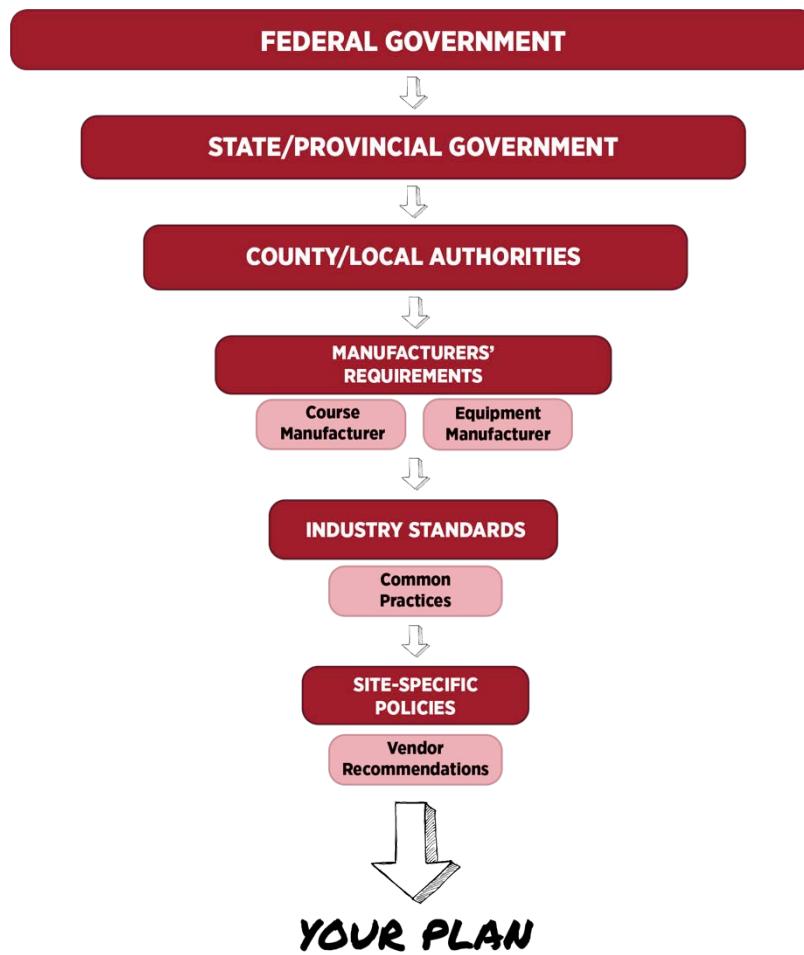


¹ Qualified Course Professional. (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from the Association for Challenge Course Technology website, <https://www.acctinfo.org/page/QCP>

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

As we've all come to discover, applying a universal recommendation in response to COVID-19 crisis is a target that is elusive at best. The combination of different and constantly changing jurisdictional requirements, individual course practices and organizational requirements, and manufacturer's requirements from dozens of entities regarding their equipment make it virtually impossible to say, "this is how you should handle this". Also, until there are studies out that inform us about the actual risks of surface to human transmission, we are all operating with limited information.

It is important to note that this document is NOT a standard, or even guidelines. We've found that it is more beneficial to provide a framework of approach, general information based on the best data we have, and strategies that operators can apply based on their individual needs. It is critical that in the development of your plan that you 1) understand and align all of the requirements of your Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs), 2) understand your manufacturers' requirements, and 3) understand any applicable industry standards (*remember, they may be either mandatory or voluntary, depending on your AHJs and your organizational priorities*). Working within those parameters, you're then ready to move forward to revise your internal policies and procedures.



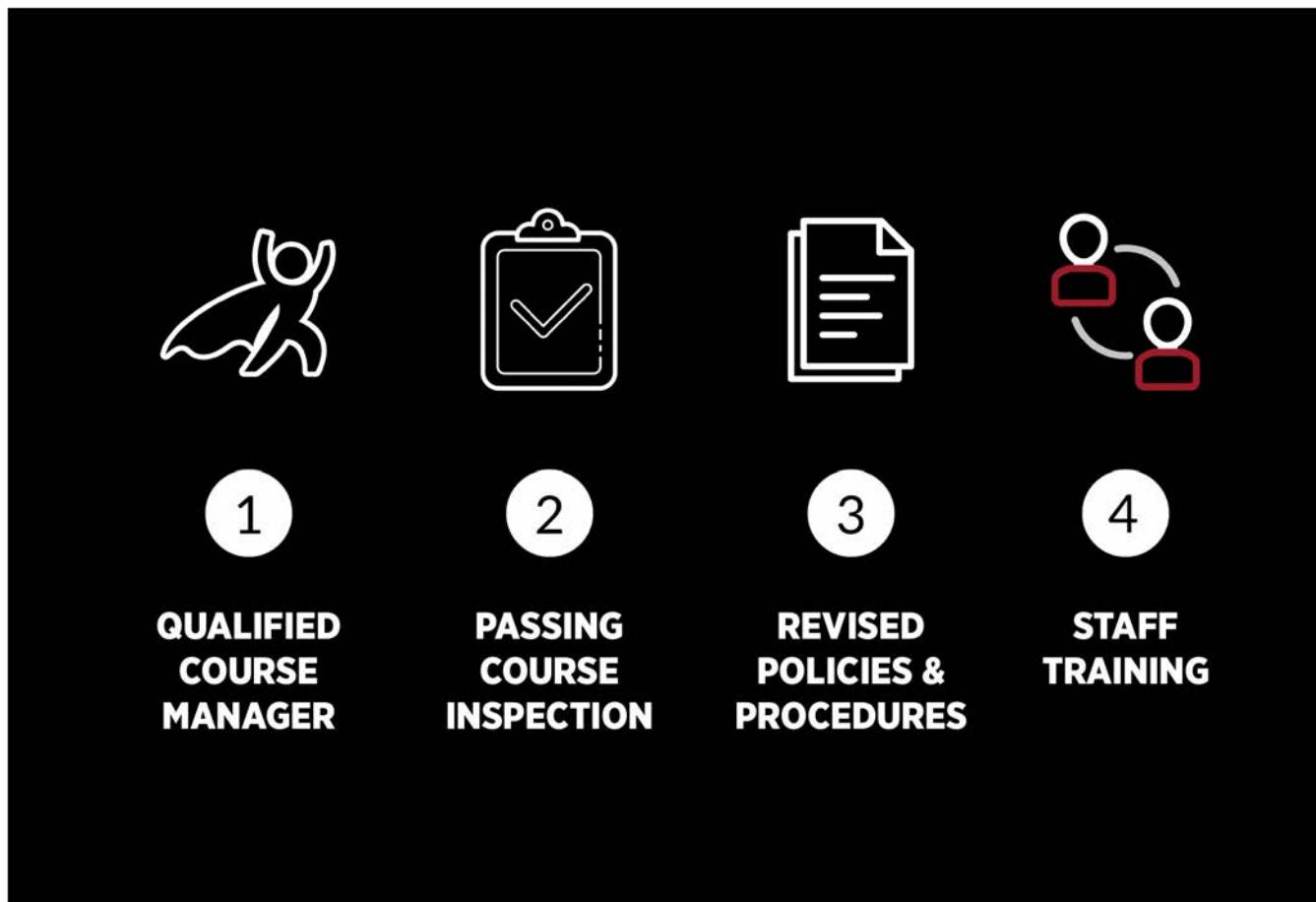
Operators must ensure that a qualified person, or a team of qualified individuals, is leading your operation through your process. There is no easy answer, and the final answer that you come to will happen only after a lot of research and planning. And even then, it is likely to change as we move through the upcoming months.

We encourage operators to work with their professional vendor on an ongoing basis as we all adapt to the requirements as they evolve. Please don't ever hesitate to contact your professional vendor with questions or requests for assistance - they're a valuable member of your team.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

In making your plan to reopen your course in a COVID-19 environment, we've identified four areas that are universal to all types of operations. While there are additional issues that will intersect with your course reopening, we are not going to address additional issues in this document that are specific to residential camping environments, commercial use attractions, etc. We encourage you to reach out to other members of these communities including industry associations and publications that have strong challenge course ties, such as the American Camp Association (www.acacamps.org) the Association for Challenge Course Technology (www.acctinfo.org), and Adventure Park Insider magazine (www.adventureparkinsider.com) to aid you in developing a plan for operations pieces that don't happen on the course, but are ancillary to your challenge course or aerial attraction.

The four pieces that we have identified as universal are the following:



In the following sections we will address each of these topics. Let's get going!

SECTION 1: QUALIFIED COURSE MANAGER



A Qualified Course Manager (QCM) is typically a certified individual who has been in the challenge course industry for some time and can meet the core, technical, and interpersonal skills required for operation of most high and low challenge course elements. Additionally, this person can demonstrate the ability to supervise others, develop site specific operations policies and procedures, conduct in-services, and implement the operations management of a facility.

A Qualified Course Manager typically has attained a Level 2 Practitioner Certification from an ACCT Accredited Vendor. In addition to other qualifications, a certified course manager will have documented 500 hours experience delivering challenge course programming, as well as 30 hours of management training, 16 of which are specific to challenge course management. They also will have received a minimum of 54-110 hours of training depending on the type of course(s) they are qualified to manage².

The importance of having a QCM is to have a person knowledgeable in course operations who can adapt procedures and put policies in place that not only reduces the chances of infection but also keeps the value of the course experience for participants. This qualified person is the point of contact for organization leadership, challenge course staff, medical personnel and health authorities, your organization's risk management team, and professional vendors. They should be responsible for working with this team of people to make an action plan specific to your course.

A QCM will also understand all of the policies and procedures, and why they are in place. It is important that the QCM train employees to understand not only the "How?" but the "Why?" of your organization's new COVID-19 procedures. They should also put a policy in place that dictates what actions employees take in the event that a participant refuses to adhere to the organization's COVID-19 policies and procedures. Pushback from a participant or guest in response to the new requirements is inevitable. The QCM can support their team by setting a support system and chain of communication in place to respond effectively to such a situation.

If your organization does not currently have a Qualified Course Manager, we recommend that in the interim you contact your professional vendor for guidance on how to manage these issues and make a plan with them on how to develop or hire a qualified person to serve as your QCM.

A list of accredited Professional Vendor Members is available on the Association for Challenge Course Technology website at www.acctinfo.org.

"LEADERSHIP IS THE
CAPACITY TO TRANSLATE
VISION INTO REALITY."
-WARREN BENNIS

² Association for Challenge Course Technology (2016). ANSI/ACCT 03-2016 Challenge Course and Canopy/Zip Line Tours Standard, Chapter 4: Practitioner Certification Standards

SECTION 2: PASSING COURSE INSPECTION



Due to shelter-in-place and other restrictions, many courses and vendors were unable to adhere to their usual course inspection schedule. Many jurisdictions have altered jurisdictional requirements for annual permitting. It is still critical that prior to utilizing/opening their course, operations ensure that they meet standards requiring an annual course inspection by a qualified professional. Ensuring the structural integrity of your course and equipment is an important step, regardless of jurisdictional permitting changes.

The following basic information is aimed at making the current COVID-19 course inspection process easier, and limiting the time spent on site by the inspector. Less time and contact while on-site reduces the risk of infection to both your staff and our inspectors, as well as helps to protect the next site that the inspector may be visiting.

Prior to your inspection:

- Your professional vendor should supply you with a policy document outlining company procedures on limiting the spread of COVID-19 through specific management of inspector travel, PPE usage, personal hygiene, and equipment sanitation.
- Ensure that agreements relevant to your annual course inspection are thoroughly reviewed, and then signed. This includes your inspection proposal and/or liability mitigation agreement document.
- Provide your inspector with a copy of your organization's COVID-19 policies that impact their inspection or use of the course.
- Communicate with the assigned inspector to identify any specific site or jurisdictional requirements you are aware of at the time of scheduling/contracting. Vendors and inspectors do their research in order to meet all requirements, however with so much rapid change in virtually every jurisdiction, vendors appreciate you sharing your expertise on your specific jurisdictional needs.
- Ensure the inspector has clear knowledge of the site and course location. Provide course location maps and reliable contact options to help prevent any unnecessary need for the inspector to wander around the facility. This is especially important for those sites with limited cell service.
- As usual, inform the inspector of any potential issues with or concerns about the course or equipment prior to their arrival.
- All operational documentation that is usually reviewed at the site should be provided electronically to your vendor at least (5) days prior to the scheduled inspection.
- Provide a copy of your most recent inspection report if the contracted vendor did not inspect it the previous year.
- Ensure there is a private restroom and water station cleaned and ready for use by the inspector during their time on your facility. The inspector will be traveling to multiple sites, and by minimizing potential transmission to the inspector you are also helping to protect the next sites they visit.

SECTION 2: PASSING COURSE INSPECTION (cont'd)



Considerations While On-Site:

Minimizing contact/respecting social distancing with the inspector while on site.

- There should be one (1) point of contact with the inspector. Ensure no others will be present during the inspection.
- Reduce the number of touch points for the inspector. All gates, locks, or buildings should be open as needed for access to the location, course, and equipment.
- Maintain a minimum distance from the inspector at all times. This typically means at least six feet (6').
- If wearing a mask or cloth face covering is required by your jurisdiction, please do so.

Minimizing staff and participant contact with the course and equipment.

- Preferably, the course should not have been in use for ***the previous seven (7) days*** prior to the inspection. CDC Guidance that states that the virus that causes COVID-19 has not been shown to survive on any surfaces longer than this time³. This ensures that any surface of the course or equipment that the inspector may need to come into contact with is virus-free. If a seven (7) day window is not feasible, the longer the window is the better, and courses and equipment should be completely free of contact for 72 hours/3 days at minimum (see page 18).
- Any periodic internal monitoring (internal inspections) by staff that take place within the seven (7) day window prior to the external professional inspection, should be strictly visual in nature.
- What if the course or equipment has not been used since last season/in the last several months?
 - ↳ It is preferred that the equipment is left in a long-term storage location for the inspector to access. You should not pull or lay out any equipment prior to the inspector's arrival.
 - ↳ Access ladders, if needed, should be unlocked but left on the ground or racks for the inspector to install.
- What if the course has been used in 2020 but not in the previous seven (7) days?
 - ↳ The equipment should be left in place as it is usually stored. This includes rescue bags or other items that may be left on the course during your season of operation.
 - ↳ None of the equipment should have been touched or used by staff or participants in ***the previous seven (7) days***.
 - ↳ Access ladders, if needed, should be unlocked but left on the ground or racks for the inspector to install.
- What if someone has inadvertently come into contact with the course or equipment within seven (7) days?
 - ↳ Notify your vendor that this has happened. They are responsible for managing the risk of their employees and need to be aware that this has occurred.
 - ↳ Depending on how much contact was made, they may reschedule your inspection to allow for a new window, or they may simply request that anything that has had contact be appropriately cleaned prior to the inspector's arrival.

Communication with your vendor is key to helping everyone manage the risk of contamination or infection as best as possible. The above items help everyone lower their risk while accomplishing a critical step to reopening.

**"SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENT IS ALWAYS
PRECEDED BY UNSPECTACULAR PREPARATION."**
-ROBERT SCHULLER

³ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (2020) Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Schools, and Homes (CDC Publication CS316485C). Retrieved from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening_America_Guidance.pdf

SECTION 3: REVISED POLICIES & PROCEDURES



Developing an entire new set of procedures for your operations can be daunting to say the least! The good news is that your core policies and procedures are probably not going to change. Participant requirements, life safety system management, safety commands, and other critical components of course usage are a constant. They must not be altered without careful thought and consultation with qualified professionals who understand course design, program design, and manufacturer's requirements. For most courses this will be accomplished through collaboration of in-house staff (including the qualified Qualified Course Manager) and your professional vendor who is familiar with your course.

Here are some major areas for you to consider as you revise your policies and procedures to mitigate COVID-19 risks:

GENERAL OPERATIONS

→ ALTERED USAGE

→ PHYSICAL DISTANCING

→ PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

SANITATION

→ INDIVIDUAL HYGIENE

→ EQUIPMENT CLEANING

→ COURSE CLEANING

We'll provide strategies for each of these six (6) areas in the upcoming pages. Based on the specific requirements for your course that you're working within, you can use these strategies as resources to build your plan.

**"THE WORLD AS WE HAVE CREATED IT IS A PROCESS
OF OUR THINKING. IT CANNOT BE CHANGED
WITHOUT CHANGING OUR THINKING."
-ALBERT EINSTEIN**

**GENERAL OPERATIONS – ALTERED USAGE**

This section outlines the ways an organization may be able to modify their course usage to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus while still providing a challenge course experience for their clients. Your vendor may also be able to assist in the development of a programming model for altered usage.

STRATEGY: Reduced course usage to allow for cleaning

- One $\frac{1}{2}$ morning and one $\frac{1}{2}$ afternoon group vs. two morning and two afternoon groups; clean high touchpoints in between groups
- Pattern programming - DAY 1: One morning and one evening group, clean course in the afternoon Day 2: One afternoon group; clean in morning and evening

STRATEGY: Reduced course usage to allow for time of non-use between users

- One group per day on a high course vs 2+ groups per day
- Alternating routes used on climbing walls (EX: day one use route #1 & #3, day two use routes #2 & #4)
- Alternating sides used on multi-sided climbing towers by group or day
- Alternating sections/routes of a high ropes course or aerial adventure course that are opened daily

STRATEGY: Combine reduced individual course usage with patterned usage of the full course and cleaning (*if multiple elements are available*)

- Day 1: Climbing wall routes #1 & #3, high course route A, single zipline or zipline tour section A; clean all high touchpoints daily (EX: entry, exit, transfer stations)
- Day 2: Climbing Wall routes #2 & #4, high course route B, single zipline or zipline tour section B; clean all high touchpoints daily (EX: entry, exit, transfer stations)

All options for altered usage will require lower course capacity than is probably typical, as well as more staff time cleaning the course. Priority may need to be given to participants based on program goals, such as allowing newer campers to have a challenge course experience, allowing “graduating” participants to do their favorite activity one last time, allowing individual family or cabin groups to share an experience by limiting overall availability.

**GENERAL OPERATIONS: PHYSICAL DISTANCING****STRATEGIES FOR GENERAL ISSUES:**

- Develop protocols for limiting the number of people in buildings, equipment sheds, and other congregating areas. This includes considerations for instances where your participants may need to take shelter, such as in a thunderstorm or other inclement weather.
- If it is normal for your participants to arrive separately and wait until the entire group gets there before beginning, have a waiting area with clearly designated spaces for individuals or small groups to stay apart from one another, yet together as a group.
- Consider using markers (EX: sports cones or ground flags) for spacing out participants for introductory and welcome talks, demonstrations and ground schools, equipment fitting, etc.
- If your course involves waiting in a line for a turn to climb, or to enter the course, have visible markers to help eager participants maintain spacing. Marking an “on deck” area may be another strategy in lieu of a line.
- Develop low and no-touch equipment fitting and handling protocols that allow participants to fit themselves with equipment whenever possible, and for employees to visually assess fit and function rather than using a tactile check, which organizations may want to avoid whenever feasible.

STRATEGIES FOR HIGH ROPES COURSES & AERIAL ATTRACTIONS:

- Respiratory droplets are a known source of virus transmission⁴. Consideration for people standing underneath others where they are at increased risk for droplets to fall on them should be given, especially if face coverings are not being worn. Some strategies include:
 - ➔ Increasing the spacing of participants on entry areas, stairways, and ladders to ensure that there is a large radius around the aerial participant. Think cylinder from the participant to the ground/next solid surface, rather than a 6' bubble.
 - ➔ Limiting the presence of people directly underneath participants while they are participating on the course.
- Limiting individual platform and element capacity on courses is a strategy that some courses are employing. Some examples may be either a one person per element rule, or mandatory empty element between those in use. Most standard course platforms do not have enough space to allow for physical distancing, and courses may want to consider a one person per platform rule.
 - ➔ If a program is allowing family groups to be in closer proximity to each other at the course, these limits may be increased.
 - ➔ If a course is maintaining physical distancing, specific capacities may be appropriate.
- Physical distancing requirements mean that courses may need to temporarily eliminate partner participation on high courses (EX: high-V/wild woozy), or only allow participation on these elements by family groups if the course is allowing for them to be in closer proximity to each other. Individuals may still traverse these activities, and you can also speak with your vendor about installing modifications such as hand lines in the interim.

STRATEGIES FOR CLIMBING WALLS, TOWERS & OTHER VERTICAL ELEMENTS:

- On climbing walls with multiple climbing routes, allow participants to use every other route. Employees will need to monitor participants to ensure they stay on their routes.
- For climbing towers and vertical climbing elements that may accommodate more than one climber per side, limit participation to one climber per side.

⁴ Modes of transmission of virus causing COVID-19: implications for IPC precaution recommendations. (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from World Health Organization website: <https://www.who.int/news-room/commentaries/detail/modes-of-transmission-of-virus-causing-covid-19-implications-for-ipc-precaution-recommendations>



GENERAL OPERATIONS: PHYSICAL DISTANCING (*cont'd*)

STRATEGIES FOR LOW COURSES:

- Many familiar low course activities specifically challenge participants by forcing them into close quarters or requiring participants to physically support each other. The inherent design of these “close-quarters” activities makes it impossible to enforce physical distancing with our usual methods of utilization/facilitation. Unfortunately, some activities may need to be temporarily eliminated if a course is either mandated to or is choosing to enforce physical distancing.

Alternative methods of facilitation will need to be explored and developed by the challenge course community to find new ways to utilize these structures. Some ideas to explore:

- ➡ **On Nitro Crossing/Prouty's Landing:** rather than a platform, have participants land on a disc or spot, then move to additional discs or spots in order to make room for their group members. Add an additional challenge by allowing each spot to only have a certain amount of “touches” by the group.
 - ➡ **On TP Shuffle:** add more space and extend the element if possible or create a “fishbowl” environment with half the group. Add a limited number of “safe zones” on the ground (marked by hula hoops, rope, or webbing loops) at intervals alongside the activity. The group will need to plan the order of their reorders to allow for there to be enough space for all as they move around and let each other transfer through safe zones. Add an additional challenge by allowing a limited number of touches per safe zone.
 - ➡ **On Whale Watch:** create a circle around the Whale Watch and designate two points of entry, one on either side of the fulcrum. Have two participants enter, balance, move to opposite sides of the Whale Watch, and keep the whale watch balanced while a third participant enters to the center. The first participant exits while the third participant takes their side of the whale watch and balances with the second participant. One participant at a time enters and exits the whale watch, trading places as they go.
 - ➡ **On Group Wall:** Use the wall as a wall in a more traditional sense. Divide the group in half and provide a challenge where the two halves need to complete a task in tandem out of sight from each other on opposite sides of the wall. Allow the group to designate one or two members to be stationed at the top of the wall in a coaching position. Maybe limit the number of “hints” these coaches are allowed to provide to their team. What’s the task? You decide – time to get creative!
- Be sure that a qualified person familiar with your organization’s policies and procedures helps to assess any alternate facilitation methods employed in order to help ensure:
 - ➡ Appropriate physical distancing
 - ➡ Appropriate inclusion of PPE as needed
 - Portable activities are likely to see an increase in use as we consider how to adapt our traditionally built activities. Some of these activities may be easily adapted to allow for physical distancing. For example, using longer ropes on a bull ring to provide more physical distance, and/or utilizing two bull rings per group (less people per bull ring) to orchestrate a tandem challenge.
 - Additionally, how we’re challenging ourselves may change. For example:
 - ➡ Exploring games that are more verbal/auditory rather than physical (rhythm games)
 - ➡ Exploring games that require synchronicity and communication instead of physical support
 - ➡ Exploring challenges that build a product that can be done relay fashion, or in duos where one person instructs, and one builds



GENERAL OPERATIONS: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

While utilizing your course, it is important to follow the guidelines/mandates from your Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in the use of pandemic-specific PPE while operating, while not increasing the inherent risk to your participants. Here are some suggestions for utilization of this PPE while employees or participants are utilizing your course. Please remember to check with your vendor/course manufacturer to discuss any changes in operational procedures or additional equipment.

Any PPE used to protect against COVID-19 has the potential to be contaminated with the virus during the course of use. All items should be treated as though they are contaminated, and a higher grade of PPE (and caution) should be used when handling reusable gloves or face coverings that have been used.

Be sure to develop a written employee protocol and training for washing reusable gloves or cloth face coverings, as well as for the removal and disposal of non-reusable items. When cleaning any items that have been used, employees should wear disposable gloves that are discarded after use.

STRATEGY: Washable/reusable gloves for participants & employees.

- It is notable that the CDC states that wearing disposable gloves “outside of cleaning and caring for someone who is sick “will not necessarily protect you from getting COVID-19 and may still lead to the spread of germs”⁵. Gloves may give a false sense of security, and lack of changing gloves between contact with surfaces or touching the face while wearing gloves may lead to transfer of the virus.
- If a course chooses to utilize gloves as a personal protection against the virus, it should **only be in addition to handwashing/sanitizing**, and gloves should not be allowed to be utilized between distinctly different areas.
- Suggested participant glove protocol includes:
 - ⇒ Thorough handwashing/sanitizing before gloves are handled by any person, and before being put on by participants.
 - ⇒ Requiring participants to remove gloves immediately following the conclusion of their climb or at the conclusion of their participation in a group belay.
 - ⇒ Having a designated glove collection bin immediately adjacent to the participant exit to the course and/or belay stations. Consider using a container filled with water and detergent to collect reusable gloves.
 - ⇒ Requiring a participant to thoroughly wash/sanitize their hands immediately after removing their gloves.
 - ⇒ Requiring participants **and staff** to use new gloves when climbing a different route or utilizing or working on a distinctly different section of the course.
 - ⇒ Creating a protocol for glove changing in the event of face-touching, sneezing into hands, etc. Courses may consider having employees carry spare gloves, bags for quarantine, and hand sanitizer, especially in high environments.
- Any fabric or leather gloves required by your course vendor or manufacturer to protect from physical hazards of participation **must still be utilized** unless you get written permission to alter your policies and procedures from an authorized representative of the company who has placed the requirement. Leather gloves can be effectively cleaned with soap and water between uses⁶.
- Any gloves worn must fit properly and not adversely affect the participant or employee's use of the course specific equipment (EX: getting caught in connectors, pulleys, or element apparatus).
- Any essential task that needs to be completed in gloves should be practiced in gloves and any revision to policy should be documented.

⁵ When to Wear Gloves (n.d.). Retrieved 15 May 2020 from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/gloves.html>.

⁶FRC Safety During COVID-19: Disinfecting Leather Gloves (2020, April 1). Retrieved 15 May 2020 from Tyndale USA website: <https://tyndaleusa.com/blog/2020/04/01/frc-safety-during-covid-19-disinfecting-leather-gloves/>.



GENERAL OPERATIONS: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (*cont'd*)

STRATEGY: Cloth face coverings (or masks)

- CDC recommends wearing cloth face coverings in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain⁷.
 - ➡ ADDITIONAL SAFETY NOTE: Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance.
- Depending on jurisdictional requirements, organizational policies, location of activity, and expected proximity, the requirements on who must wear face coverings and when may change. The following situations and recommendations were presented by a representative from the Association for Camp Nurses⁸
 - ➡ Participants and employees should wear face coverings when interacting indoors.
 - ➡ A group of participants that interact with each other on an extended basis, specifically youth in camp settings, may forego face coverings when in their group, however it is recommended that employees wear face coverings when interacting with these groups.
 - ➡ Employees that are able to maintain social distance from participants should have a face covering immediately available to them in the event that they need to come in closer proximity to a participant (EX: clipping a participant in or out of a course, performing a rescue).
- Some courses are planning to allow their employees to wear bandanas or neck gaiters that can be kept around the neck when employees are able to be socially distanced, but that can be pulled up when employees need to be in closer proximity to another person. In this instance, it is recommended that employees be trained to manipulate the face covering from the areas below the ears, rather than touch the front/mouth area of the face covering.
- Assuming that cloth face coverings haven't been exposed to contact (including coughs and sneezes) by others, the cloth face cover may be washed on a daily basis before reuse, as opposed to more frequently⁹.
- Protocols should be developed for removal and replacement of a face covering in situations where a face covering is contaminated by another person while in use.
- It is important to ensure that face coverings do not increase risk:
 - ➡ Cloth face coverings or masks shouldn't limit vision
 - ➡ It should be considered whether face coverings should be worn in situations where there is a high level of physical activity, and a face covering might obstruct breathing. Consult with your risk management and management professionals within your organization to decide your organization's position.
 - ➡ Consider situations where cloth face coverings or masks that attach via ear loops may be preferable for participants, vs masks that go around full head or neck (ex: gaiters). Consult with your risk management and management professionals within your organization to decide your organization's position
 - ➡ Cloth face coverings should not be worn in water. Yes, it needs to be said.

⁷ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (2020) *Use of Cloth Face Coverings to Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19* (CDC Publication CS316353B). Retrieved 15 May 2020 from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf>.

⁸ The Alliance Collaborative, *Returning to Normalcy: Preparing to Open Roundtable Discussion* (2020, 12 May) Retrieved 15 May 2020 from The Alliance Collaborative website: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/6cApc--rpjg3T4GStgSDAfN-W9W9f6-s1nAe_EFyUvkV3AHYFWhZbsRMLC11MQBtjihzQT3lUr6kpi?autoplay=true.

⁹ *Tips on how to wear and care for your cloth mask* (n.d.). Retrieved 15 May 2020 from Mayo Clinic website: <https://newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org/discussion/tips-on-how-to-wear-and-care-for-your-cloth-mask/>.

**GENERAL OPERATIONS: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (*cont'd*)****STRATEGY: Face shields (clear plastic shield that protects the wearer's entire face)**

- Face shields provide protection, especially eye protection, in situations where it is necessary to be in close proximity to another person (within 6 feet / 2 meters).
- Courses may want to consider employing face shields specifically in the following situations:
 - ⇒ During equipment fitting or checks
 - ⇒ During situations where employees are required to perform safety system transfers for others
 - ⇒ During retrievals, emergency rescues, or otherwise assisting participants in close proximity
- Face shields should be sanitized often, at minimum between groups, as the virus is not only spread through sneezing or coughing. COVID-19 may be spread by droplets dispersed by talking¹⁰.
- Employees must avoid touching the outside of a face shield when removing or adjusting it.

STRATEGY: Ready to deploy PPE for employees

- Consider having PPE that is specific to staff rescue bags if gloves/masks/face shields are not otherwise in use, or if your site-specific requirements dictate that employees must use medical/higher grade PPE when in close contact with others. Be sure to include sets of any additional PPE for the participant (i.e. face covering, gloves) if they are not already required to wear it, and an isolation bag for any used PPE.

STRATEGY: Mitigating potential issues caused by shoes – a crossover issue

- Because respiratory droplets fall to the ground, and we walk on the ground, there is evidence that shoes may be a mode of transportation for the virus in hospital settings⁴. It is worth noting, however, there are no studies currently available regarding the transportation of the virus on shoes in an environment typical to an outdoor course. There is potential for risk here, but the level of risk is currently unknown. For those operations concerned about the transmission of the virus by shoes, we offer the following strategies:
 - ⇒ On courses accessed by ladders, participants may be required to sanitize their hands after climbing a ladder, and wash or sanitize their hands immediately after descending a ladder.
 - ⇒ For courses who are planning on providing their participants with gloves, it may be desirable for the gloves to be provided to the participants after they have ascended to the course and sanitized their hands, but before participating on the first element of the course.
 - ⇒ For courses that have elements where hands and feet are regularly in contact with the same surfaces, the course may want to consider a procedure to sanitize the soles of climbers shoes immediately before ascending, or eliminating these elements for the time being until there is data available on ground to shoe transmission in an outdoor environment.

¹⁰ Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (2020) *What you should know about COVID-19 to protect yourself and others* (CDC Publication CS314937A). Retrieved 15 May 2020 from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>.



SANITATION: INDIVIDUAL HYGIENE

Individual hygiene, especially good handwashing, is critical to limiting the spread of the virus¹¹. This will mean both employees and participants participation in regimented hygiene protocols.

- Ensure that all employees have been trained on the benefits of handwashing, and on how to properly wash their hands. This may seem like an unnecessary step, however a 2018 study by the USDA found that American attempts at handwashing resulted in a whopping 97% failure rate¹²!
 - ➔ [The Benefits of Handwashing](#), Government of Canada
 - ➔ [When and How to Wash Your Hands](#), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
- If you are utilizing hand sanitizer, ensure that it contains greater than 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol¹³, and that all employees have been trained to understand the proper way to utilize hand sanitizer (yes, you can use it incorrectly):
 - ➔ [When and How to Use Hand Sanitizer in a Community Setting](#), Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
- Consider posting signs reinforcing good handwashing habits, as well as instructing participants on any requirements for handwashing/individual hygiene while they are at your facility. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention has [many posters, ready for you to download and print](#).
- Ensure there are adequate supplies and facilities available for both employees and participants.
 - ➔ Aim to have handwashing or hand sanitization stations no more than 100' away from your course(s).
 - ➔ Consider your expected volume and provide enough stations to accommodate that, spaced at least 10' apart from each other to allow space for traffic as people come and go from the stations.
- Remind participants about important hygiene related issues:
 - ➔ Reinforce the need for handwashing, specifying exactly when it is expected.
 - ➔ For youth, remind them about proper hand washing/hand sanitization techniques.
 - ➔ Remind participants about coughing and sneezing into elbows, avoiding touching their face, proper disposal or containment of hand towels, gloves, and other sanitation or PPE items that have come into contact with the hands.
- Ensure that your facility care is not compounding the issue. People need clean facilities to get clean hands, and it is critical that restroom facilities and water stations be kept clean and are attended to regularly. It's not pleasant to talk about, but viral shedding via fecal matter is present in people infected with the virus – and that includes people who are asymptomatic¹⁴. You do not want your restrooms or water stations to be the epicenter of virus spreading. Make a plan to clean your restroom facilities and any water stations on an accelerated schedule, with EPA cleaners approved for coronavirus.
 - ➔ [Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- Everyone should be washing or sanitizing their hands well **every time** before and after coming into contact with the course or equipment, including immediately prior to putting on gloves.
- Strictly monitor to ensure that everyone is participating in hand washing/hand sanitization prior to touching any piece of equipment or part of the course.

¹¹ Show Me the Science – How to Wash Your Hands. (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/show-me-the-science-handwashing.html>

¹² Millions of Americans With Dirty Hands Are Spreading Dangerous Bacteria. (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from the United States Department of Agriculture website: <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2018/06/28/millions-americans-dirty-hands-are-spreading-dangerous-bacteria>

¹³ Hand Hygiene recommendations. (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html>

¹⁴Yifei C., Liangjun C., Qiaoling D., Guqin Z., Kaisong W., Lan N., ...Zhenshun C. (2020) The presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in the feces of COVID-19 patients. *Journal of Medical Virology*. Retrieved from: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jmv.25825>



SANITATION – EQUIPMENT CLEANING

The primary method of cleaning any piece of equipment, whether it be metal, textile, or a combination of both, can be found in the specified equipment manufacturers product instructions. If you do not have a copy of your manufacturer's information for a piece of equipment, please visit the manufacturer's website for the most up to date product instructions. If the information is not available on their website, contact your professional vendor or the manufacturer. [This living document](#) that compiles current information from various manufacturers can be consulted. A list of contacts for major manufacturers is also included in the appendices of this document.

The manufacturer's requirements for cleaning your equipment must always be followed. If a manufacturer is providing you with alternate cleaning methods that differ from the methods distributed with their product or on their website, be sure to get the recommendations in writing, and file it with other information about your equipment.

GENERAL EQUIPMENT CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- First, remove all contaminants and build-up (dirt, grease, etc.) from the piece of equipment, then fully clean the entire product with a solution of plain water and mild soap. "Mild soap" is defined as soap that is pH neutral (6.5 – 7.5) and is recommended because such solutions generally provide the best material compatibility profile and good soil removal¹⁵. Because liquid dish soaps are formulated to be used by hand, mild dish soap is a common choice.
- When washing, do not use any abrasive cleaning tools.
- ***You must never use any chemical other than mild soaps (including bleach, rubbing alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, Lysol/Clorox wipes, or other disinfecting products) that are not expressly authorized in writing by the equipment manufacturer.***
- The use of warm water is permitted. The general recommended temperature for equipment cleaning is 30°C/86°F, but in the special circumstances of COVID-19, temperatures up to 60°C/140°F are allowable and reduce the strength of the equipment by approximately 2%¹⁶.
- Handwashing or the use of a bladeless load agitated washing machine is allowable, however the machine must be free of other detergents before use, containing the equipment in a mesh bag is recommended, and the maximum temperature cited above must not be exceeded.
- Allow equipment to dry outside or in a well-ventilated area. Avoid prolonged time in direct sunlight unless it is allowable by the equipment manufacturer. Do not machine dry equipment under any circumstances.



Additional methods of cleaning equipment have been considered and, while effective, some may have a negative effect on the longevity or structural integrity of the equipment. Some methods may only be used a limited amount of times and are not practical in a high-use environment such as a challenge course or aerial attraction. Other methods seem to have promise but are as of yet untested and are not yet approved by manufacturers (for example, steam disinfection). These methods therefore are not our currently recommended practice.

When possible, do not share fall protection equipment amongst staff or participants. If sharing equipment is unavoidable, clean equipment using the guidelines above before transferring equipment to another user. Plan accordingly for the necessary time for equipment to air dry before re-distributing equipment for use.

¹⁵ What Are Neutral Cleaners? (n.d.). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from Environmentally Sensitive Solutions website: https://www.neutralcleaner.com/website/?page_id=156

¹⁶ Acevedo Rivera L. (2020, April) Recommended Disinfection Methods for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Adventure Courses, Provided by Dr. Luis D. Acevedo Rivera. Available at <https://www.thealliancecollaborative.com/covid19-resources>



SANITATION – EQUIPMENT CLEANING (cont'd)

When cleaning your challenge course fall protection equipment as discussed previously is not possible, equipment may be able to be isolated, and then used on a rotational basis after 48 to 72 hours without contact.

VIABLE LIFESPAN OF SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) ON VARIOUS MATERIALS¹⁷

While there are preliminary studies and reports that show exposure to sunlight shortens the lifespan of the new coronavirus^{18 19}, no conclusive, peer reviewed studies have yet been released. Until there is conclusive evidence that sunlight has a negative effect on the lifespan of the virus on surfaces, as well as what the exact effect to the SARS-COV-2 lifespan actually is, we recommend utilizing proven methods to ensure your equipment is sanitary.

¹⁷Woodward, A., Gal, S., (2020, April 7) One chart shows how long the coronavirus lives on surfaces like cardboard, plastic, wood, and steel. Retrieved 16 May 2020 from Business Insider website: <https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-lifespan-on-surfaces-graphic-2020-3>

¹⁸Merow, C., Urban, M., (2020, April 16) Seasonality and uncertainty in COVID-19 growth rates. Retrieved 16 May 2020 from MedRxiv website: <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.19.20071951v1.full.pdf+html>

¹⁹ Sunlight and humidity kill coronavirus the fastest: US scientists (2020, April). Retrieved 16 May 2020 from Al Jazeera website: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/sunlight-humidity-kill-coronavirus-fastest-scientists-200424065853466.html>



SANITATION – COURSE CLEANING

Cleaning your course has the potential to be a big job. Depending on how much contact or close proximity participants have with the actual course structures, your organization may choose to clean a substantial portion of your course or only clean high traffic zones and common touchpoints. Some high traffic/high touch areas to consider include:

- ➔ **Ladders – the entire surface**
- ➔ **Stair/entry railings**
- ➔ **Surfaces at entry/exit points or other areas where people pause**
- ➔ **Transfer stations for continuous belay systems**
- ➔ **Guy or element cables that may be grabbed due to encroachment into a path**
- ➔ **Rock holds**
- ➔ **Giant swing bars**
- ➔ **Handhold ropes and “grab” objects on high and low elements**
- ➔ **Terminations of cables that are likely to be grabbed during transfer or while waiting**
- ➔ **Ropes used on entries or during a change of levels**

Additionally, your storage room(s) and areas accessed only by employees, and other items specific to employees might also appear on your cleaning list:

- **Door handles**
 - **Exteriors and handles of storage boxes**
 - **Locks and chains/cables**
 - **Pens, clipboards, and filing containers**
- Never use sanitizing liquids, gels, or other substances on your course. These include, but are not limited to bleach, rubbing alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, Lysol/Clorox wipes, or other products with sanitizing or disinfecting claims. The effect of each of these substances on the life sustaining components of your challenge course has not been evaluated. Importantly, many of these chemicals will compromise material integrity and **knowingly corrode the galvanizing** (zinc coatings) on the metal components. They are used to support critical loads including human life support systems, and not only is it possible for them to be damaged, in many instances will violate manufacturers safety warnings.
 - Until the effects of sunlight and the outdoors on the lifespan of the coronavirus is known, **high traffic/high touch areas of your course should be cleaned periodically, at a frequency dictated by your AHJ and your overall organizational policies for high touch areas**. Depending on other measures that your course has in place, such as glove usage, face coverings, and handwashing policies, cleaning after every group that uses the course, after a specified short period of use, or after a specified number of users may be acceptable.
 - You may want to develop a protocol and portable cleaning kits for isolated instances of contamination, such as someone sneezing or coughing on the face of a rock wall, or other course surface that is in close proximity to their face.

**SANITATION – COURSE CLEANING (*cont'd*)**

Always consult with your course manufacturer and/or professional vendor before you embark on your new cleaning protocol to make sure that you're not doing anything that will harm course components. They may also have specific advice or products that can help you do the job.

GENERAL COURSE CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

- First, remove all contaminants and build-up (dirt, grease, etc.) from the area/component of the course that you're cleaning, then fully clean the entire product with a solution of plain water and mild soap. "Mild soap" is defined as soap that is pH neutral (6.5 – 7.5) and is recommended because such solutions generally provide the best material compatibility profile and good soil removal. Because liquid dish soaps are formulated to be used by hand, mild dish soap is a common choice.
- Use soft items to lightly scrub any high traffic zones and common touchpoints. Mitts, such as those typically used to wash a car, will be easier to manage at height and avoid drop.
- Areas cleaned with soap should be rinsed/sprayed with plain water after cleaning to avoid buildup and attraction of contaminants.
- Let the course component air dry. Application of heat or fans should be unnecessary.
- ADDITIONAL SAFETY NOTE: If you are taking buckets or other items up onto the course that are not normally present, be sure to secure them well and/or avoid having people walk underneath you. Not only will they avoid having an item potentially drop on them, they'll also avoid getting wet from a drippy course. Also, a lot of bucket handles aren't as strong as you think – fair warning!

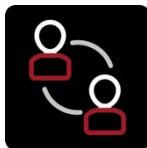
If cleaning your challenge course elements or structures as described above is not possible, challenge course structures may be able to be used on a rotational basis following 48 to 72 hours of non-use.

- No studies have been released regarding the lifespan of SARS-COV-2 on zinc galvanized surfaces. Previous studies examining the lifespan of other viruses have shown that zinc surfaces may have mild antiviral activity, although notably less antiviral activity than copper²⁰.
- Do NOT use sanitizers or other disinfectants on galvanized and zinc-plated metals.

Course managers should contact their local health department for regional requirements and recommendations for COVID-19 specific cleaning, and use of playgrounds and attractions.

²⁰ Warnes, S., Little, Z., Keevil, C., (2015, November) Human coronavirus 229E Remains Infectious on Common Touch Surface Materials. Retrieved 16 May 2020 from National Center for Biotechnology Information website: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4659470/>

SECTION 4: STAFF TRAINING



Due to shelter-in-place and other restrictions, many courses and vendors were unable to adhere to their usual staff training schedule. It remains critical that prior to utilizing/opening their course, operations ensure that they meet industry standards. Providing an annual training by a qualified person to those employees who have not received an annual training is a critical step to making sure that your staff are ready to take care of your participants on the course.

The following basic information is aimed at making the current COVID-19 training process easier, and limiting the time spent on site by the trainer. Less time and contact while on-site reduces the risk of infection to both your staff and our trainers, as well as helps to protect the next site that the inspector may be visiting.

Prior to your training:

- Your professional vendor should supply you with a policy document outlining company procedures on limiting the spread of COVID-19 through specific management of trainer travel, PPE usage, personal hygiene, and equipment sanitation.
- Ensure that agreements relevant to your training are thoroughly reviewed, and then signed. This includes your inspection proposal and/or liability mitigation agreement document.
- At least two (2) weeks before the training, provide your trainer with operational documentation regarding your site-specific policies and procedures. Be sure to also provide a copy of your organization's COVID-19 policies that impact the use of the course, as those will naturally affect the contents of the training.
- Communicate with the assigned trainer to identify any specific site or jurisdictional requirements you are aware of at the time of scheduling/contracting. Vendors and trainers do their research in order to meet all requirements, however with so much rapid change in virtually every jurisdiction, vendors appreciate you sharing your expertise on your specific jurisdictional needs.
- Ensure the trainer has clear knowledge of the site and course location, as well as their lodging and provided amenities if they are staying on-site. Provide course location maps and reliable contact options to help prevent any unnecessary need for the trainer to wander around the facility. This is especially important for those sites with limited cell service.
- As usual, inform the trainer about the participating trainees, including any potential needs, prior to the trainer's arrival.
- Ensure there is a private restroom and water station cleaned and ready for use by the trainer during their time on your facility.
- Ensure that any additional PPE, sanitation supplies, etc. that the trainer is expecting to be present are on-site and ready for use well before your trainer arrives. **If the trainer is mandated by law to adhere to certain requirements, or it is against their company policy to work in certain conditions, they may not be able to continue your training.**
- Prepare and provide a few outdoors, open-air classroom environments, including one appropriate to use in the rain. In the event that the training needs to be taken inside, depending on the vendor's company policies, everyone may be required to wear a face covering as preliminary studies have shown that risk of transmission significantly increases in an indoor environment²¹.

²¹ Quian, H., Miao, T., Liu, L., Zheng, X., Luo, D., Li, Y., (2020, April) *Indoor Transmission of SARS-CoV-2*. Retrieved 16 May 2020 from MedRxiv website: <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2020.04.04.20053058v1>

**Considerations While On-Site:**

Minimizing contact/respecting social distancing with the trainer while on site.

- There should be one (1) main point of contact with the trainer. While the trainer will be interacting with multiple people throughout the course of the training, minimizing contact wherever possible is beneficial to everyone.
- If the trainer is staying on-site, ensure that there is private lodging, including a clean private restroom facility and water station that is kept solely for the trainer's use throughout the length of their stay.
- Reduce the number of touch points for the trainer. Have the main contact or a designated person within the training group be responsible for locking and unlocking all gates, locks, or buildings as needed.
- Maintain a minimum distance from the trainer at all times, unless **they dictate** that the training situation requires closer proximity. This typically means at least six feet (6').
- If wearing a mask or cloth face covering is required by your jurisdiction, please do so.

Minimizing previous contact with the course and equipment.

- Preferably, the course should not have been in use for **the previous seven (7) days** prior to the training. CDC Guidance that states that the virus that causes COVID-19 has not been shown to survive on any surfaces longer than this time²². This ensures that any surface of the course or equipment that the trainer may need to come into contact with is virus-free upon first contact. If a seven (7) day window is not feasible, provide the longest window that IS feasible. In any event, the courses and equipment should be completely free of contact for 72 hours/3 days at minimum (see page 18).
- Any periodic internal monitoring (internal inspections) by staff that take place within the seven (7) day window prior to the training, should be strictly visual in nature.
- What if someone has inadvertently come into contact with the course or equipment within seven (7) days?
 - ↳ Notify your vendor that this has happened. They are responsible for managing the risk of their employees and need to be aware that this has occurred.
 - ↳ Depending on how much contact was made, they may reschedule your training to allow for a new window, or they may simply request that anything that has had contact be appropriately cleaned prior to the trainer's arrival.

Communication with your vendor is key to helping everyone manage the risk of contamination or infection as best as possible. The above items help everyone lower their risk while accomplishing one of the last critical steps for reopening.

**"FOR THE THINGS WE HAVE TO LEARN
BEFORE WE CAN DO THEM,
WE LEARN BY DOING THEM."
-ARISTOTLE**

²² Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (2020) *Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Schools, and Homes* (CDC Publication CS316485C). Retrieved from Centers for Disease Control & Prevention website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/pdf/Reopening_America_Guidance.pdf

APPENDIX A: EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER CONTACT INFORMATION

Arcteryx

<https://www.arcteryx.com/>

1-866-458-2473

AustriAlpin, Inc.

<https://austrialpin.net/>

info@austrialpin.net

Beal

<https://www.beal-planet.com/>

Black Diamond Equipment

<http://www.blackdiamondequipment.com/>

1-800-775-5552

bdmo@bde.com

Blue Water Ropes

<https://www.bluewaterropes.com/>

1-770-834-7515

info@bluewaterropes.com

CAMP

<https://www.camp-usa.com/>

1-303 465-9429

CLIMBING@CAMP-USA.COM

Climbing Technology

<https://www.climbingtechnology.com/>

+39 035 78 35 95

vendite@aludesign.it

ClimbTech

<https://climbtech.com/>

1-512-308-6440

info@climbtech.com

CMI Gear

<https://cmigearusa.com/>

1-800-247-5901

Cypher

<https://cypherclimbing.com/>

1-801-307-9306

info@cypherclimbing.com

DMM

<https://dmmclimbing.com/>

+44 (0) 1286 872 222

post@dmmwales.com

Edelrid

<https://www.edelrid.de/>

1-844 594-0201

customerservice@edelrid.com

Edelweiss

<http://www.edelweiss-ropes.com/en/>

+33(0)474784474

Fixe

<https://www.fixedclimbing.com/>

+52 222 214 1200

info@fixedclimbing.com

Fusion

<https://www.fusionclimb.com/>

1-909-393-9450

order@fusionclimb.com

Headrush

<https://headrushtech.com/>

1-720-565-6885

sales@headrushtech.com

Headwall Harnesses

<http://headwallharnesses.com/>

1-520-312-6217

headwallharnesses@gmail.com

ISC

<https://www.iscwales.com/>

+44 (0) 1248 363 125

sales@iscwales.com

Koala Equipment

<http://koala-equipment.com/>

+33-0-4-50-97-5019

info@koala-equipment.com

Kong

<https://www.kong.it/>

+39 0341 630506

info@kong.it

APPENDIX A: EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURER CONTACT INFORMATION (*cont'd*)

Liberty Mountain

<https://www.libertymountain.com/>

1-800.366.2666

sales@libertymountain.com

Maxim Ropes

<https://www.maximropes.com/home/>

1-508-678-8200

Maximropes@teufelberger.com

Misty Mountain

<https://mistymountain.com/>

1-828-963-6688

info@mistymountain.com

New England Ropes

<https://www.neropes.com/>

1-508-678-8200

neropes@teufelberger.com

Perfect Descent

<https://www.perfectdescent.com/>

1-303-953-0874

service@perfectdescent.com

Petzl

<https://www.petzl.com/US/en/>

1-801-926-1500

info@petzl.com

PMI

<https://pmirope.com/>

1-706-764-1437

custserv@pmirope.com

Robertson Harness

<https://robertsonharness.com/>

1-970.682.4470

sales@robertsonharness.com

Rock Exotica

<https://www.rockexotica.com/>

1-801 728-0630

info@rockexotica.com

Singing Rock

<https://www.singingrock.com/>

+ 420 481 585 007

info@singingrock.cz

Skylotec

<https://www.skylotec.com/>

1-303-544-2120

coho@skylotec.de

SMC

<https://smcgear.com/>

1-800- 426-6251

customerservice@smcgear.com

Sterling Ropes

<https://sterlingrope.com/>

1-207-282-2550

shop@sterlingrope.com

Stubai

<https://www.stubai-sports.com/>

+43 5225 6960 0

office@stubai.com

Trango

<https://trango.com/>

1-303-530-3035!

info@trango.com

Wichard

<https://www.wichardamerica.com/>

1-401-683-5055

sales@wichardamerica.com

Wild Country

<https://www.wildcountry.com/>

1-303-444-446

Yates Gear

<http://www.yatesgear.com/>

1-530.222.4606

info@YatesGear.com

Yoke

www.yoke.net

+886-4-2350-8088

albee_chang@mail.yoke.net

APPENDIX B: LIST OF POTENTIAL POLICIES & PROCEDURES

The following is a list of Policies and Procedures that you may want to consider developing for your course. This list is not exhaustive, nor is it mandatory – just sparking ideas for systems that might work for you and your organization.

EMPLOYEE DAILY SELF CHECK POLICY & PROCEDURES

- A policy that addresses the expectation for employees to monitor their own health, and report that this monitoring has taken place. Each organization will need to decide what recordkeeping is appropriate for them. ***Please consult with your risk management team*** on whether this policy is appropriate for your organization, and how to handle employee health information. Organizations wishing to do an employee health check should consider whether it is better for employees to report health information regularly, or simply that the check was completed and ensure that any appropriate follow up happens.

PARTICIPANT PRE-USE SELF CHECK POLICY & PROCEDURES

- A policy that addresses the expectation for participants to monitor their own health, and report that this monitoring has taken place prior to participating in the program. Each organization will need to decide what recordkeeping is appropriate for them. ***Please consult with your risk management team*** on whether this policy is appropriate for your organization, and on how to handle participant health information. Organizations wishing to do a participant health check should consider whether it is better for participants to report health information, or simply that the check was completed and ensure that any appropriate follow up happens.

PROCEDURES FOR PARTICIPANT REFUSAL

- An action plan on how your organization will address a participant who refuses to follow policies or procedures. This should be a realistic plan that every employee is trained on, so that everyone in your organization is on the same page and acting in sync with their response. This could also include guidance to employees on how to discreetly notify supervisors that there is an issue and their presence is needed.

COVID-19 OPERATIONS POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- Any adjusted operations practices need to be recorded in written form in order to facilitate understanding and accountability. Operations may want to consider the formulation of a COVID-19 specific addendum to their LOPs, rather than rewriting their standard LOPs in their entirety.

COVID-19 EQUIPMENT CLEANING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A document that specifies organizational policies regarding equipment cleaning. This could be broken down by type of equipment and provide clear instructions on the process of cleaning and drying equipment, as well as when it is considered fit for re-use.

COVID-19 COURSE CLEANING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A document that specifies organizational policies regarding course cleaning. This could be broken down by type of surface, identify high traffic and high touch zones, and provide clear instructions on the process of cleaning, as well as when the course is considered fit for re-use.

CLEANING LOG

- A document to track what equipment and courses were cleaned according to policy, when, and by whom.

[NAME OF COURSE] – CLIMBING WALL
COVID-19 Procedures Addendum

These procedures are in addition to the standard Local Operating Procedures (LOPs) as outlined in the [NAME OF COURSE] challenge course manuals. These procedures include items that are specific to course operation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

GENERAL

MINIMUM STAFF: X

COURSE RATIOS: X staff to X participants

COURSE MAX CAPACITY: X participants

PHYSICAL DISTANCING PLAN

GROUND: Participants shall remain a minimum of X feet apart. Cones will mark where they circle up upon arrival. They will remain in that position through the duration of the introduction and equipment fitting. At demonstration time they will transition to a set of cones set up at least X' apart near the climbing wall. Following the demonstration, they will be shown the marker that indicates an open route on the wall, and they will be told to line up next to a ground flag behind that marker, spaced at least X' apart until it is their time to climb. After climbing, participants will go back to the demo cones in order to continue to coach and encourage fellow climbers. After all climbs have concluded, participants will return to cones at the intro circle, be instructed how to remove their harness if they have not already removed it, and counselors will help debrief the activity.

ON COURSE: Every other route will be opened for each group and will rotate between odd and even number routes. First group will climb routes #1 & #3, next group will climb routes #2 & #4.

NEW PPE & HYGIENE PROTOCOL ADDITIONS

HAND CLEANING: Participants and employees will wash their hands immediately prior to the program. Participants will have their hands sanitized prior to putting on gloves. Following final equipment check and prior to getting tied in to climb, staff will provide two pumps of hand sanitizer to participant and ensure they disinfect their hands well. Following taking off gloves and placing them in designated container, participants will immediately go to the portable sink to wash their hands.

GLOVES: Once the sanitizer is dried, staff will provide the participant with reusable gloves to wear while climbing. After climbing, participant will remove gloves and place into the designated bucket filled with water and detergent.

FACE COVERINGS: Employees will wear cloth face coverings or masks for the duration of the program. Employees speaking to the large group may remove their mask to talk, provided that they are a minimum of X' away from any other person.

PROTOCOLS FOR STANDARD PPE

PARTICIPANT PPE FITTING: Each participant will have their own set of PPE, which will not be shared. Employees will verbally coach participants on how to fit gear on themselves. If participants need assistance, they will be helped by their counselor. Final checks will be visual and performed by the employees, requiring a pull-down check for the harness and head-shake test for the helmet.

PARTICIPANT PPE CLEANING: Following conclusion of their climb, participants will drop their harnesses into one designated bin, and their helmets into another. After the end of the program, the employees will don medical or cleaning gloves, fill the glove, helmet, and harness containers with water and X tablespoons of mild dish soap. They will wash, rinse, and dry each piece of gear according to the [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Equipment Cleaning Policies & Procedures.

EMPLOYEE PPE: All employees will utilize one set of PPE per program (helmet, harness, belay gloves) and will not transfer equipment to another employee. Employee harnesses and helmets will be washed, rinsed, and dried according to [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Equipment Cleaning Policies & Procedures prior to re-use by any person. If an employee prefers, rather than washing/sanitizing their hands multiple times, they may wear nitrile (non-latex) gloves underneath their belay gloves to reduce likelihood of viral transmission to themselves. All gloves must either be disposed of or washed at the conclusion of each program, including belay gloves.

SANITATION FOR ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT

ROPES: All ropes are to be washed, rinsed, and dried according to the [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Equipment Cleaning Policies & Procedures before being used with another group.

BELAY DEVICES: All belay devices are to be washed, rinsed, and dried according to the [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Equipment Cleaning Policies & Procedures before being used with another group.

SANITATION FOR THE COURSE

Prior to another group utilizing the Climbing Wall, either:

- 1) All handholds on routes used during the course of the program will be washed according to [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Equipment Cleaning Policies & Procedures
OR
- 2) A 72 hour / 3-day period of non-use must occur for the routes used.

APPENDIX D: SAMPLE CLEANING LOG

[NAME OF COURSE]

COVID-19 Cleaning Log

Record the date and time of cleaning, specify what was cleaned, and initial boxes in a way that clearly indicates who performed the cleaning. All cleaning must follow the [NAME OF COURSE] COVID-19 Cleaning Policies & Procedures.



APPENDIX E: SAMPLE EMPLOYEE DAILY SELF CHECK POLICY & PROCEDURES

[NAME OF COURSE] EMPLOYEE DAILY SELF-CHECK POLICY & PROCEDURES

Each day prior to commencing work, each employee on the course shall:

1. Have their temperature checked or check their own temperature with a no contact thermometer provided at the course
 - a. Acceptable temperatures are BELOW 100.3 degrees
2. Do a daily self-screening for symptoms of COVID-19
 - a. Symptoms include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, loss of or reduced sense of smell, nausea, vomiting, chills or fatigue.

Performing a self-check at home is also acceptable, as long as the employee reports that the check has been completed. A reference sheet and log for checks shall be present at the course.

If the employee has no symptoms, they will log that they have completed their self-check.

In the event that there are one or more symptoms present, the employee shall immediately report their symptoms to a supervisor, who will work with the employee and other qualified parties to determine whether the employee should remain at work that day.

In recognition that the symptoms of COVID-19 are many and varied, the presence of one or two minor symptoms may not result in an employee being removed from work (EX: *runny nose could be seasonal allergies*).

In the event that any one of the following symptoms is present, the employee shall not work that day:

- Fever
- Repetitive cough
- Shortness of breath
- Vomiting
- Chills
- Fatigue

If the employee is presenting multiple symptoms suddenly, or if symptoms persist beyond one day, the employee [shall/may] get tested for COVID-19. If any employee gets tested, results shall be received prior to the employee returning to work. In the event that testing is not available, or if the employee prefers not to be tested, the employee [shall/may] participate in a period of isolation for 14 days prior to returning to work.

NOTE: Per the FFCRA Act, employees who are waiting for results of a test or who are quarantining as described above shall be provided with paid sick leave. Please refer to the USDoL FFCRA Act poster distributed 1 April 2020 via email, and also posted in the main office.

APPENDIX F: SAMPLE EMPLOYEE SELF-CHECK DAILY LOG

[NAME OF COURSE] EMPLOYEE DAILY SELF-CHECK LOG

It is the policy of [NAME OF COURSE] that employees perform a self-check for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to commencing their duties for the day.

Please do a self-assessment of the following symptoms:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| ➡ Temperature above 100.3°F | ➡ Chills |
| ➡ Cough | ➡ Achy body/muscle pain |
| ➡ Shortness of breath | ➡ Fatigue |
| ➡ Nausea | ➡ Loss of smell |
| ➡ Vomiting | ➡ Sore throat |

Once your daily self-check has been completed, please indicate so in the log below:

Name	SUN 7 Jun	MON 8 Jun	TUE 9 Jun	WED 10 Jun	THU 11 Jun	FRI 12 Jun	SAT 13 Jun

Please notify your supervisor privately if you are displaying any symptoms or have any concerns.

Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps
and Conference Centers



Section Five:
**Field Guide for Camps
on Implementation of
CDC Guidance**



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Considerations for Youth and Summer Camps

Updated May 19, 2020

As some communities in the United States begin to convene youth camps, CDC offers the following considerations for ways in which camp administrators can help protect campers, staff, and communities, and slow the spread of COVID-19. Camp administrators can determine, in collaboration with [state and local health officials](#), whether and how to implement these considerations, making adjustments to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community. Implementation should be guided by what is feasible, practical, acceptable, and tailored to the needs of each community. These considerations are meant to supplement—not replace—any state, local, territorial, or tribal health and safety laws, rules, and regulations with which camps must comply.

Guiding Principles to Keep in Mind

The more people a camper or staff member interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in youth camp settings as follows:

- **Lowest Risk:** Small groups of campers stay together all day, each day. Campers remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects. Outdoor activities are prioritized. All campers are from the local geographic area (e.g., city, town, county, community).
- **More Risk:** Campers mix between groups but remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects. Outdoor activities are prioritized. All campers are from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).
- **Even More Risk:** Campers mix between groups and do not remain spaced apart. All campers are from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).
- **Highest Risk:** Campers mix between groups and do not remain spaced apart. All campers are **not** from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as [handwashing](#), [staying home when sick](#)) and environmental [cleaning and disinfection](#) are important principles that are covered in this document. Fortunately, there are a number of actions youth camp administrators can take to help lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during camp sessions and activities.

Promoting Behaviors that Reduce Spread

Camp administrators may consider implementing several strategies to encourage behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19.

- **Staying Home when Appropriate**
 - Educate staff, campers, and their families about when they should [stay home](#) and when they can return to camp.
 - Actively encourage employees and campers who are sick or have recently had a [close contact](#) with a person with COVID-19 to stay home. Develop policies that encourage sick employees to stay at home without fear of reprisal, and ensure employees are aware of these policies.
 - [Employees and campers should stay home](#) if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Employees who have recently had a [close contact](#) with a person with COVID-19 should also [stay home and monitor their health](#).
 - CDC's criteria can help inform when employees should return to work:
 - [If they have been sick with COVID-19](#)
 - [If they have recently had a close contact with a person with COVID-19](#)

- **Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette**

- Teach and reinforce [handwashing](#) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among campers and staff.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
- Encourage staff and campers to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older campers who can safely use hand sanitizer).

- **Cloth Face Coverings**

- Teach and reinforce the use of [cloth face coverings](#). Face coverings may be challenging for campers (especially younger campers) to wear in all-day settings such as camp. Face coverings should be worn by staff and campers (particularly older campers) as feasible, and are **most** essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Information should be provided to staff and campers on [proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings](#).
 - Note: Cloth face coverings should **not** be placed on:
 - Babies or children younger than 2 years old
 - Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious
 - Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without help

[Cloth face coverings](#) are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have [symptoms](#). Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.

- **Adequate Supplies**

- Support [healthy hygiene](#)  by providing supplies including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for staff and older campers who can safely use hand sanitizer), paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, cloth face coverings (as feasible), and no-touch/foot pedal trash cans.

- **Signs and Messages**

- Post [signs](#) in highly visible locations (e.g., camp entrances, dining areas, restrooms) that promote [everyday protective measures](#)  and describe how to [stop the spread](#)  of germs such as by [properly washing hands](#) and [properly wearing a cloth face covering](#) .
- Broadcast regular [announcements](#) on reducing the spread of COVID-19 on PA system
- Include messages (for example, [videos](#)) about behaviors that prevent spread of COVID-19 when communicating with staff and families (such as on camp websites, in emails, and through camp [social media accounts](#)).
- Find free CDC print and digital resources on [CDC's communications resources](#) main page.

Maintaining Healthy Environments

Camp administrators may consider implementing several strategies to maintain healthy environments.

- **Cleaning and Disinfection**

- [Clean and disinfect](#) frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the camp facility and in any [shared transportation](#) vehicles at least daily or between use as much as possible. Use of shared objects (e.g., art supplies, nap mats, toys, games) should be limited when possible, or cleaned between use.
- Develop a schedule for increased, routine cleaning and disinfection.
- If transport vehicles (e.g., buses) are used by the camp, drivers should practice all safety actions and protocols as indicated for other staff (e.g., hand hygiene, cloth face coverings). To clean and disinfect school buses or other transport vehicles, see guidance for [bus transit](#).
- Ensure [safe and correct use](#) and storage of [cleaners and disinfectants](#) , including storing products securely away from children. Use products that meet [EPA disinfection criteria](#) .
- Cleaning products should not be used near children, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent children or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.
- Use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash. [Wash hands](#) after removing gloves.

- **Shared Objects**
 - Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to [clean, sanitize, or disinfect](#).
 - Keep each camper's belongings separated from others' and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas.
 - Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assign art supplies or other equipment to a single camper), or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of campers at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
 - Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- **Ventilation**
 - Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling or triggering asthma symptoms) to campers using the facility.
- **Water Systems**
 - To minimize the risk of [Legionnaires' disease](#) and other diseases associated with water, [take steps](#) to ensure that all water systems and features (e.g., sink faucets, drinking fountains, showers, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown. Drinking fountains should be cleaned and sanitized, but encourage staff and campers to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.
- **Modified Layouts**
 - Space seating at least 6 feet apart.
 - If nap times are scheduled, ensure that campers' naptime mats are assigned to individual children, are [sanitized](#) before and after use, and spaced out as much as possible, ideally at least 6 feet apart. Place campers head-to-toe to ensure distance between their faces.
 - Prioritize outdoor activities where social distancing can be maintained as much as possible.
 - Create [social distance](#) between campers on school buses (e.g., seat children one child per row, skip rows) when possible.
- **Physical Barriers and Guides**
 - Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart (e.g., reception desks).
 - Provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to ensure that staff and campers remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times (e.g., guides for creating "one way routes" in hallways).
- **Communal Spaces**
 - Close shared spaces such as dining halls and playgrounds with shared playground equipment, if possible; otherwise stagger use and [clean and disinfect](#) between use.
 - Follow [CDC's considerations for Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#).
- **Food Service**
 - Have campers bring their own meals as feasible, and eat in separate areas or with their smaller group, instead of in a communal dining hall or cafeteria. Ensure the [safety of children with food allergies](#).
 - Use disposable food service items (utensils, dishes). If disposable items are not feasible or desirable, ensure that all non-disposable food service items are handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in a dishwasher. Individuals should [wash their hands](#) after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
 - If food is offered at any event, have pre-packaged boxes or bags for each attendee instead of a buffet or family-style meal. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils and ensure the [safety of children with food allergies](#).

Maintaining Healthy Operations

Camp administrators may consider implementing several strategies to maintain healthy operations.

- **Protections for Staff and Campers who are at Higher Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19**
 - Offer options for staff at [higher risk for severe illness](#) (including older adults and people of all ages with certain underlying medical conditions) that limit exposure risk (e.g., telework and modified job responsibilities).

- Offer options for campers at [higher risk for severe illness](#) that limit exposure risk (e.g., virtual learning opportunities).
- For staff and campers: Limit camp attendance to staff and campers who live in the local geographic area (e.g., community, city, town, or county) to reduce risk of spread from areas with higher levels of COVID-19.
- Put in place policies that protect the privacy of people at [higher risk for severe illness](#) regarding underlying medical conditions.
- **Regulatory Awareness**
 - Be aware of local or state regulatory agency policies related to group gatherings to determine if events can be held.
- **Identifying Small Groups and Keeping Them Together (Cohorting)**
 - Keep campers together in small groups with dedicated staff and make sure they remain with the same group throughout the day, every day.
 - Limit mixing between groups if possible.
- **Staggered Scheduling**
 - Stagger arrival and drop-off times or locations by cohort (group) or put in place other protocols to limit contact between cohorts and with other campers' guardians as much as possible.
 - When possible, use flexible worksites (e.g., telework) and flexible work hours (e.g., staggered shifts) to help establish policies and practices for social distancing (maintaining distance of approximately 6 feet) between employees and others, especially if social distancing is recommended by state and local health authorities.
- **Gatherings, Visitors, and Field Trips**
 - Avoid group events, gatherings, or meetings where social distancing of at least 6 feet between people cannot be maintained. Limit group size to the extent possible.
 - Limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible – especially with individuals not from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city, or county).
 - Avoid activities and events such as field trips and special performances.
 - Pursue options to convene sporting events and participation in sports activities in ways that minimize transmission of COVID-19 to players, families, coaches, and communities.
- **Designated COVID-19 Point of Contact**
 - Designate a staff person (e.g., camp nurse or healthcare provider) to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. All camp staff and families should know who this person is and how to contact them.
- **Communication Systems**
 - Put systems in place for:
 - Consistent with applicable law and privacy policies, having staff and families self-report to the camp administrators if they have [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days in accordance with [health information sharing regulations for COVID-19](#) (e.g., see "[Notify Health Officials and Close Contacts](#)" in the [Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick](#) section below)  and other applicable privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations.
 - Notifying staff and families of camp closures and restrictions in place to limit COVID-19 exposure (e.g., limited hours of operation).
- **Leave (Time Off) Policies**
 - Implement flexible sick leave policies and practices that enable employees to stay home when they are sick, have been exposed, or [caring for someone who is sick](#).
 - Examine and revise policies for leave, telework, and employee compensation.
 - Leave policies should be flexible and not punish people for taking time off, and should allow sick employees to stay home and away from co-workers. Leave policies should also account for employees who need to stay home with their children if there are school or childcare closures, or to care for sick family members.
 - Develop policies for return-to-camp after COVID-19 illness. CDC's [criteria to discontinue home isolation and quarantine](#) can inform these policies.
- **Back-Up Staffing Plan**
 - Monitor absenteeism of campers and staff, cross-train staff, and create a roster of trained back-up staff.

- **Staff Training**
 - Train staff on all safety protocols.
 - Conduct training virtually or ensure that [social distancing](#) is maintained during training.
- **Recognize Signs and Symptoms**
 - If feasible, conduct daily health checks (e.g., temperature screening and/or [symptom checking](#)) of staff and campers (if feasible) safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
 - Camp administrators may use examples of screening methods in CDC's supplemental [Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open](#) as a guide for screening campers and CDC's [General Business FAQs](#) for screening staff.
- **Sharing Facilities**
 - Encourage any organizations that share or use the camp facilities to also follow these considerations, and limit shared use, if feasible.
- **Support Coping and Resilience**
 - Encourage employees and campers to take breaks from watching, reading, or listening to news stories about COVID-19, including social media if they are feeling overwhelmed or distressed.
 - Promote employees and campers eating healthy, exercising, getting sleep, and finding time to unwind.
 - Encourage employees and campers to talk with people they trust about their concerns and how they are feeling.
 - Consider posting signs for the national distress hotline: 1-800-985-5990, or text [TalkWithUs](#) to 66746

Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick

Camp administrators may consider implementing several strategies to prepare for when someone gets sick.

- **Advise Sick Individuals of Home Isolation Criteria**
 - Sick staff members or campers should not return to camp until they have met CDC's [criteria to discontinue home isolation](#).
- **Isolate and Transport Those Who are Sick**
 - Make sure that staff and families know that they (staff) or their children (families) should not come to camp, and that they should notify camp officials (e.g., the designated COVID-19 point of contact) if they (staff) or their child (families) become sick with COVID-19 [symptoms](#), test positive for COVID-19, or have been [exposed](#) to someone with symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case.
 - Immediately separate staff and campers with COVID-19 [symptoms](#) (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) at camp. Individuals who are sick should go home and/or to a healthcare facility depending on how severe their symptoms are, and follow [CDC guidance for caring for yourself or others who are sick](#).
 - Work with camp administrators, nurses, and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who has COVID-19 symptoms or who has tested positive but does not have symptoms. If the camp has a nurse or other healthcare provider, they should use [Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions](#) when caring for sick people. See: [What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19 Infection](#).
 - Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick to their home or to a healthcare facility. If you are calling an ambulance or bringing someone to the hospital, try to call first to alert them that the person may have COVID-19.
- **Clean and Disinfect**
 - Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use these areas until after [cleaning and disinfecting](#) them (for outdoor areas, this includes surfaces or shared objects in the area, if applicable).
 - Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible. Ensure [safe and correct](#) use and storage of [cleaning](#) and disinfection products, including storing them securely away from children.
- **Notify Health Officials and Close Contacts**
 - In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, camp administrators should notify [local health officials](#), staff, and families immediately of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the

[Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\)](#)

- Advise those who have had [close contact](#) with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home, self-monitor for [symptoms](#), and follow [CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop.

Special Considerations for Overnight Camps

In addition to the considerations listed above, sleep away camps may also consider:

- Limit camp attendance to staff and campers who live in the local geographic area (e.g., community, city, town, or county).
- Align mats or beds so that campers and staff sleep head-to-toe at least 6 feet apart.
- Add physical barriers, such as plastic flexible screens, between bathroom sinks and between beds, especially when they cannot be at least 6 feet apart.
- Monitor and enforce [social distancing](#) and [healthy hygiene](#) behaviors throughout the day and night.
- [Clean and disinfect](#) bathrooms regularly (e.g., in the morning and evening, after times of heavy use) using [EPA-registered disinfectants](#).
- Encourage staff and campers to avoid placing toothbrushes or toiletries directly on counter surfaces.
- Work with camp administrators, nurses, and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like [symptoms](#). If the camp has a nurse or other healthcare provider, they should use [Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions](#) when caring for sick people. See: [What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19 Infection](#).
- Staff and campers with [symptoms](#) (fever, cough, or runny nose) at camp should immediately be separated and sent home and referred to their healthcare provider. Families of sick campers may follow [CDC Guidance for caring for oneself and others](#) who are sick.
- Staff and campers who have had [close contact](#) with a person who has [symptoms](#) should be separated and sent home as well, and follow [CDC guidance for community-related exposure](#). If symptoms develop, families should follow [CDC guidance for caring for oneself and others](#) who are sick.
- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone sick to their home or to a healthcare facility in an emergency.
- Take steps to ensure any external community organizations that share the camp facilities follow these considerations.

Other Resources

[Latest COVID-19 Information](#)[Face Coverings](#)[Cleaning and Disinfection](#)[Social Distancing](#)[Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)[COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)[Guidance for Schools and Childcare Centers](#)[Persons at Higher Risk](#)[Guidance for Park Administrators](#)[Managing Stress and Coping](#)[Shared and Congregate Housing](#)[HIPAA and COVID-19](#)[COVID-19 Prevention](#)[CDC Communication Resources](#)[Handwashing Information](#)[Community Mitigation](#)

Resources and Tools to Guide Reopening Camps and Conference Centers



Section Six: **Sample Signage**

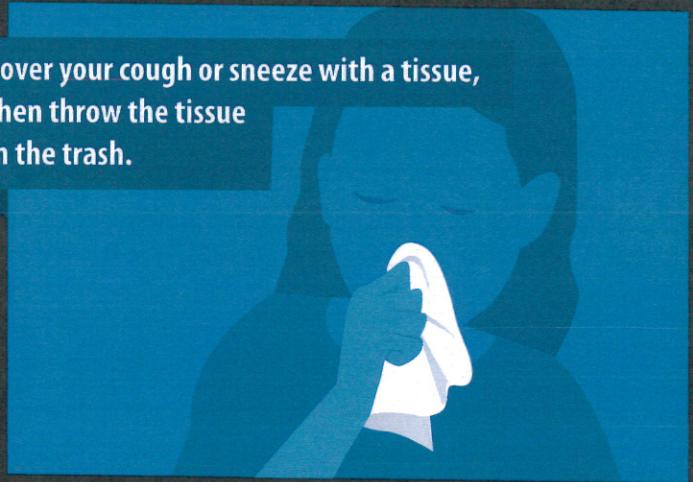
Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



When in public, wear a cloth face covering over your nose and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

wash YOUR Hands!



hands
that look
clean can still
have icky
germs!

WASH YOUR HANDS

Rub soap and water on your hands while you sing:

Jesus loves me this I know,
for the bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong,
they are weak but he is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me,
the bible tells me so.



WASH YOUR HANDS

Rub soap and water on your hands while you sing:

Jesus loves me this I know,
for the bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong,
they are weak but he is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me,
the bible tells me so.



USE HAND SANITIZER

Keep yourself and those
around you healthy!

Thank you for your
understanding and
consideration.



SAFETY FIRST!

The Salvation Army serves a diverse
and vulnerable population of people.

Please take precautions to avoid the spread of
any communicable disease and keep yourself healthy.

Please wash hands and cover coughs or sneezes.
We are here to serve you in the safest way possible.

Thank you and God bless you!



HAND WASHING 101

1 WET HANDS



2 ADD SOAP



SCRUB FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS

3 PALMS



NEED A
TIMER? SING
THIS SONG
TWICE

If you're a Camper and you know it
Wash your hands
If you're a Camper and you know it
Wash your hands

If you're a Camper and you know it
Then your hands will surely show it
If you're a Camper and you know it
Wash your hands

4 BACK OF HANDS



5 FINGERNAILS



6 IN BETWEEN FINGERS



7 WRISTS



8 RINSE WELL



PREFERABLY WITH A PAPER TOWEL

9 DRY HANDS



REMEMBER: DON'T TOUCH YOUR FACE!

american CAMP association®