

COVID-19: Guidance for Summer Camps from the Wyoming Department of Health

August 1, 2020

Background

Public health orders continue and are modified periodically. All orders are designed to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Key definitions and order provisions are contained in each order. These orders do not specifically address summer camps or camp activities. This document provides recommendations and guidelines from the Wyoming Department of Health for the operation of summer camps during the COVID-19 outbreak. Questions may be directed to your County Public Health Office.

Copies of the current statewide orders can be found here: <https://covid19.wyo.gov>

General Guidance

The Wyoming Department of Health recommends the following COVID-19 mitigation practices for summer camps. The [CDC Decision Tree Tool](#) is another resource to guide decision-making.

Physical Distancing Guidance

1. Summer camp activities should be limited to groups of 50 children or less.
 - a. WDH recommends limiting group size as much as possible to reduce exposure in the case of a positive COVID-19 case in the group.
2. Ensure enhanced distancing measures, such as spaced seating to at least six (6) feet apart whenever possible.
3. Avoid mixing camp classes or groups.
4. Field trips are not recommended.
5. Serve individually plated meals to limit sharing of food or utensils.
6. Keep children's belongings separated and avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other learning aids.
7. Stagger arrival and drop-off times and locations OR establish other protocols to limit direct contact with parents.
8. Limit nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups.
9. Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials to the greatest extent possible (e.g., art supplies assigned to individual campers).
10. Hold all activities in an area separate from any designated dining areas.
11. Space out seating and bedding to six (6) feet apart as much as possible.
12. If outdoor sports will be part of the camp activities, follow the youth sports guidance found [here](#).

Camp Operations

1. Encourage camp employees and volunteers to wear face coverings when physical distancing is not possible.
2. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
 - a. Keep cleaning and disinfecting supplies away from children.
 - b. To clean and disinfect school buses used to transport campers, see guidance for [bus transit operators](#).
3. Signage should be posted on the camp premises about how to stop the spread of COVID-19, such as hand washing, properly wearing face coverings, physical distancing, etc. The CDC has numerous print and signage resources that can be accessed [here](#).



4. Screen and monitor children, staff, and volunteers for signs or symptoms of COVID-19. See the screening guidance found [here](#). Symptoms of COVID-19 can be found [here](#).
5. Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible.
6. [Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe](#) after prolonged facility shutdown to minimize risk of diseases associated with water.

Staff and Volunteer Training and Support

1. Train all employees and volunteers on safety requirements and procedures being implemented.
 - a. Maintain social distancing and use of face coverings during training.
 - b. Offer training virtually where appropriate.
2. Develop a plan for if an employee, volunteer, or camper becomes sick or a COVID-19 case is confirmed.. The plan should include at minimum:
 - a. Procedures for safely transporting anyone sick to their home or healthcare facility if needed.
 - b. Procedures for notifying local health officials, other employees, and customers (if possible), while maintaining confidentiality consistent with all federal and state privacy laws.
 - c. Close off all areas used by a sick person and do not reopen until after cleaning and disinfection has occurred.
 - i. Wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as possible.
3. Implement flexible sick leave and other flexible policies and practices such as telework, if feasible.
4. Create a roster of trained back-up staff and volunteers, if possible.
5. Create and test communication systems for employees and volunteers for notification of exposures and closures.
6. Support [coping and resilience](#) among employees and volunteers.

More resources from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for schools and child care programs can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>.

For more information about the COVID-19 outbreak please visit: health.wyo.gov or cdc.gov.