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Reopening Guidance

Sector: Outdoor Recreation

Specific Guidance for Outdoor Recreation Organizations:

Outdoor recreation organizations are required to:

- Review and implement General Guidance for Employers.
- Prior to reopening after extended closure, ensure all parks and facilities are ready to operate and that all equipment is in good condition, according to any applicable maintenance and operations manuals and standard operating procedures.
- Prohibit parties (a group of 10 or fewer people that arrived at the site together) from congregating in parking lots for periods longer than reasonable to retrieve/return gear and enter/exit vehicles.
- Reinforce the importance of maintaining at least six (6) feet of physical distance between parties (a group of 10 or fewer people that arrived at the site together) on hiking trails, beaches and boat ramps through signs and education.
- Keep day-use areas that are prone to attracting crowds closed (including but not limited to playgrounds, picnic shelters/structures, water parks and pools, and sports courts for contact sports like basketball).
- Prohibit contact sports.
- Thoroughly clean restroom facilities at least twice daily and, to the extent possible, ensure adequate sanitary supplies (soap, toilet paper, hand sanitizer) throughout the day. Restroom facilities that cannot be cleaned twice daily should be kept closed or a sign should be posted stating that the restroom is unable to be cleaned twice daily.
- Frequently clean and disinfect work areas, high-traffic areas, and commonly touched surfaces in both public and non-public areas of parks and facilities.
- Post clear signs (available at healthoregon.org/coronavirus) listing COVID-19 symptoms, asking employees, volunteers and visitors with symptoms to stay home and who to contact if they need assistance.
- Keep any common areas such as picnic tables not in shelters/structures, day-use shelters, and buildings open to the public arranged so there is at least six (6) feet of physical distance between parties (chairs, benches, tables). Post clear signs to reinforce physical distancing requirements between visitors of different parties.
- Review and implement Mask and Face Covering Guidance for Business, Transit and the Public.

To the extent possible, outdoor recreation agencies should, but are not required to:

- Consider closing alternating parking spots to facilitate at least six (6) feet of physical distance between parties.
- Consider opening loop trails in a one-way direction to minimize close contact between hikers. Designate one-way walking routes to attractions if feasible.
- Encourage the public to visit parks and recreation areas during off-peak use times as defined and publicized by park or recreation area management.
- Encourage the public to visit parks and recreation areas close to home, avoid overnight trips and minimize travel outside their immediate area for recreation. Especially caution the public to not travel outside of their home area if they live in an area with a high number of reported COVID-19 cases to prevent asymptomatic COVID-19 positive individuals from inadvertently bringing the virus into an area with many fewer cases.
- Consider opening private, municipal, county and federal campgrounds as long as physical distancing requirements can be maintained. Oregon State Parks may make a separate determination on opening state campgrounds depending on readiness, ability to maintain physical distancing requirements and consultation with the Governor.
- Consider opening skate parks as long as physical distancing requirements can be maintained.
- Encourage visitors to bring their own food, water bottles and hygiene supplies (including hand sanitizer), as well as to take their trash with them when they leave.
- Encourage the public to recreate with their own household members rather than with those in their extended social circles.
- Encourage the public to recreate safely and avoid traveling to or recreating in areas where it is difficult to maintain at least six (6) feet from others not in their party.
- Position staff to monitor physical distancing requirements, ensure groups are no larger than 10 people, and provide education and encouragement to visitors to support adherence.
- Provide handwashing stations or hand sanitizer in common areas such as picnic areas, day-use shelters, and buildings open to the public.
- Consider placing clear plastic or glass barriers in front of cashiers or visitor center counters, or in other places where maintaining six (6) feet of physical distance between employees, volunteers and visitors is more difficult.

Additional resources:

- Signs you can post
- Mask and Face Covering Guidance for Business, Transit and the Public
- OHA Guidance for the General Public
- OHA General Guidance for Employers
- CDC's Guidance for Administrators in Parks and Recreational Facilities

This guidance is issued at the direction of the Governor under Executive Order No. 20-25*.*

Accessibility: For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide documents in alternate formats such as other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact Mavel Morales at 1-844-882-7889, 711 TTY or OHA.ADAModifications@dhsoha.state.or.us.